



2015 HWRFV9.0.0 Implementation Briefing to EMC: *Much improved and higher resolution (2km) operational forecast guidance for all global tropical cyclones*

Vijay Tallapragada & HWRF Team

**Environmental Modeling Center,
NCEP/NOAA/NWS, NCWCP, College Park, MD 20740.**

**in collaboration with
NHC, DTC, GFDL, URI, UCLA, Purdue/NSF, HRD**

EMC CCB Meeting, April 15, 2015

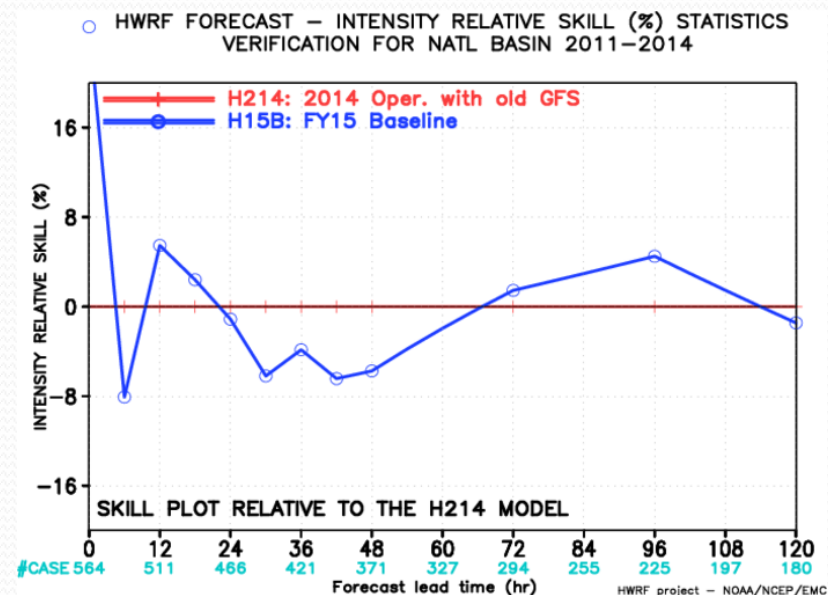
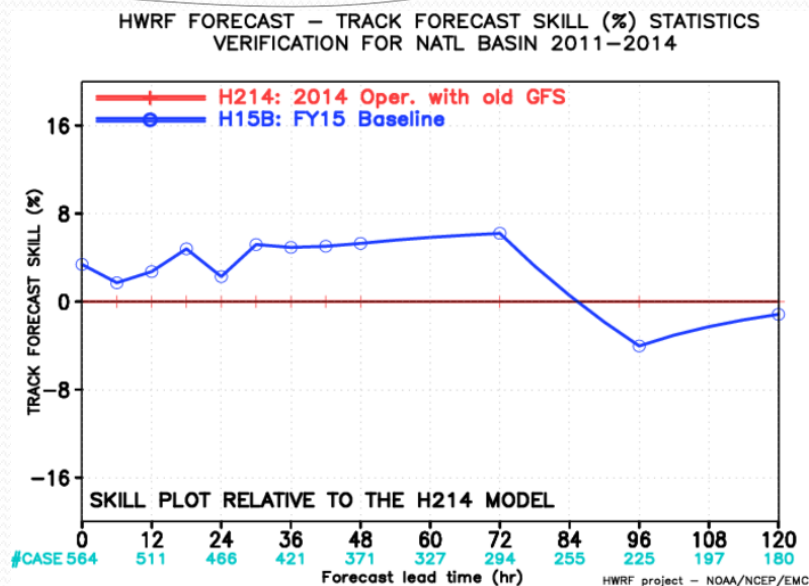


Scope of FY15 HWRF Upgrades

- **System & Resolution Enhancements**
 - Replace current partial HWRF python based scripts with complete Python based scripts for a unified system
 - GFS data Upgrades
 - Increase the horizontal resolution of atmospheric model for all domains from 27/9/3 to 18/6/2 km.
- **Initialization/Data Assimilation Improvements**
 - Upgrade and improve HWRF vortex initialization scheme in response to both GFS and HWRF resolution increases
 - Upgrade Data Assimilation System with hybrid HWRF-based EnKF and GSI system.
- **Physics Advancements**
 - Upgrade Micro-physics process (Ferrier-Aligo)
 - Upgrade GFDL radiation to RRTMG scheme with partial cloudiness
 - Upgrade surface physics and PBL, momentum and enthalpy exchange coefficients(Cd/Ch)
 - Upgrade current GFDL slab model to NOAH LSM.
- **First time in 2015....**
 - Self cycled HWRF ensembles based warm start for TDR DA
 - Expand HWRF capabilities to all global (including WP/SH/IO) basins through 7-storm capability in operations to run year long

HWRF Infrastructure/Resolution Upgrades

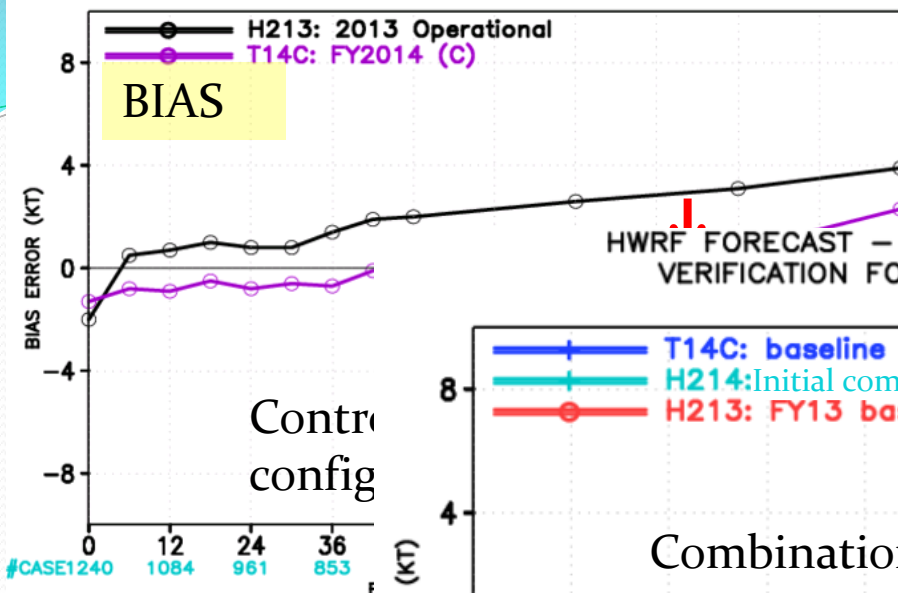
- The NMM core of the operational HWRF model upgraded to latest community version WRF V3.6.1.
- The horizontal resolution increased from 27/9/3km to 18/6/2km, which allow the model to resolve more storm scale features and have better storm-large scale interactions.
- Use high resolution GFS T1534 as IC/LBC
- Fix a major bug in vortex initialization for tropical storms in Southern Hemisphere
- Adjust the size of the filter domain in response to res. GFS res. increase
- Add more smoothing if the radius of maximum wind speed is significantly smaller than observation
- Remove the basin-dependence in vortex initialization



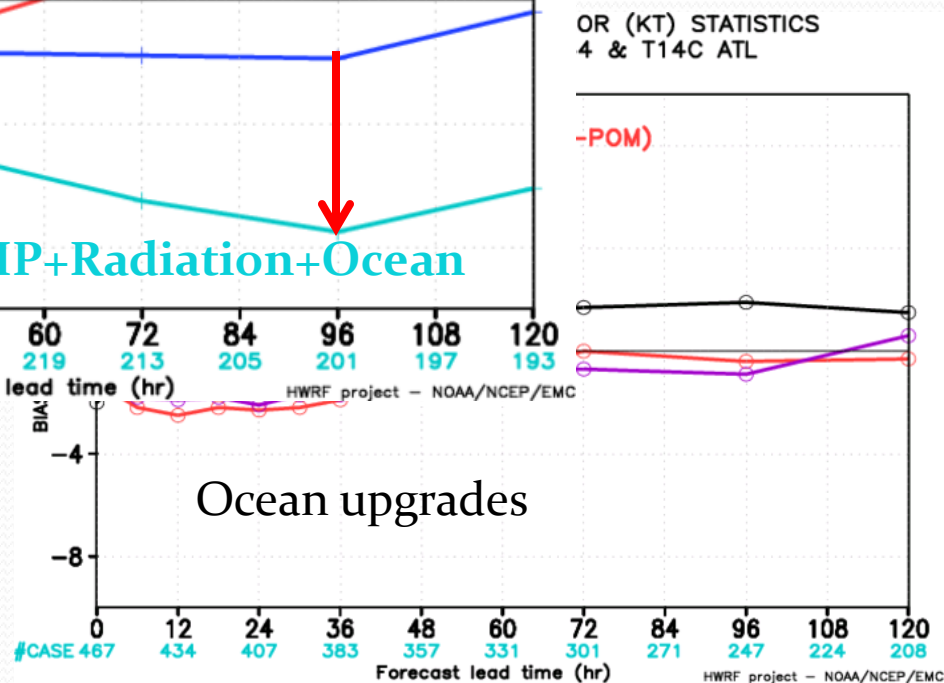
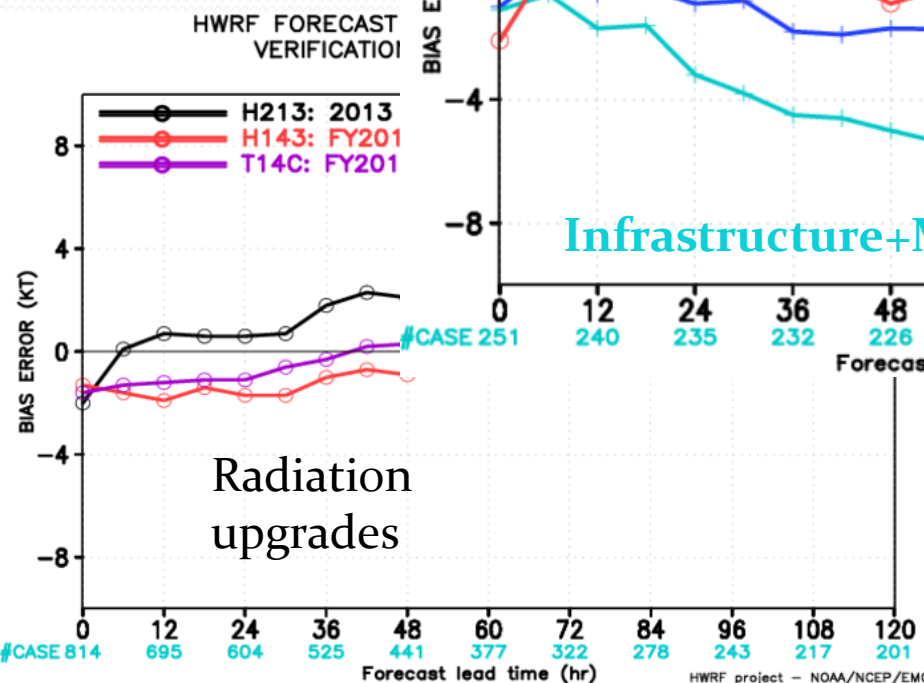
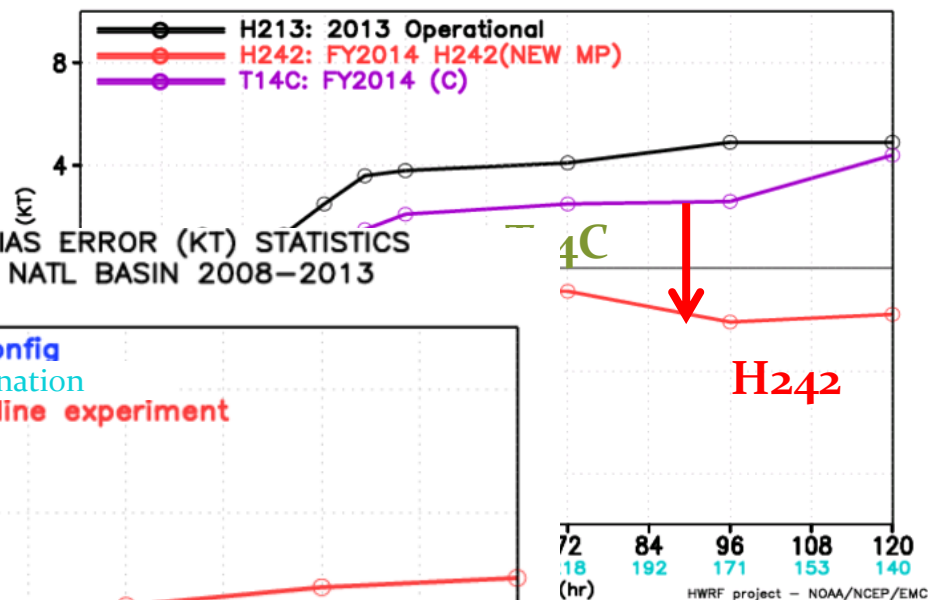
Data Assimilation Upgrades (H15T)

- DA Upgrades for non-TDR cases (included in H215)
 - Upgrade to the latest EMC GSI v5.0.0, and further tuned to improve the initial analysis for all HWRF domains.
 - use the 80-member global ensemble based one-way hybrid EnKF-3DVAR 6h forecast fields to calculate the covariance.
 - Enlarged d2 (6km) and d3 (2km) analysis domains to address discontinuity in the initial condition between forecast domains;
 - Run GSI on d2 analysis domain and add analysis increment to d3;
 - **No satellite DA on d3 analysis domain due to pronounced negative impact;**
 - Added the assimilation of tcvitals MSLP data along with all dropsonde data.
- DA Upgrades for TDR cases (**H215 Final**):
 - **run 40-member HWRF ensembles for 6h to provide more accurate, flow-dependent, vortex-dependent data assimilation covariance.**
 - Run GSI on both d2 and d3 analysis domains;
 - Larger data assimilation domains

HWRF FORECAST – BIAS ERROR (KT) STATISTICS
VERIFICATION H213 & T14C ATL 2010–2013



HWRF FORECAST – BIAS ERROR (KT) STATISTICS
VERIFICATION H213, H142 & T14C ATL

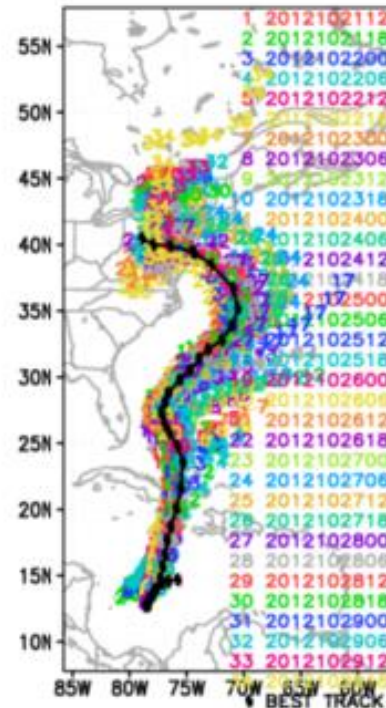


Upgraded Land Surface model

GFDL slab to NOAH LSM – NSF VSP Contributions

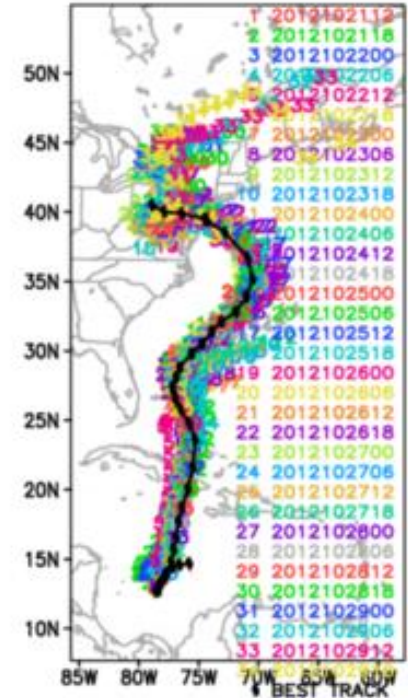
- NOHA LSM provides realistic land surface physics, and predicts soil moisture, soil temperature, land surface skin temperature, land surface evaporation and sensible heat flux, and total runoff.
- NOAH LSM significantly reduced the negative temperature bias
- **A major bug fix for NOAH LSM is introduced to prevent occasional model crash due to inconsistent stability dependent heat exchange coefficients over land (Subramaniam, NSF-NOAA VSP)**
- HWRF will include additional products for down-stream applications (e.g. storm surge, inland flooding)
- Track errors for land-falling storms are improved based on preliminary tests

HWRF forecast: SANDY (al1820)



GFDL Slab

HCAP forecast: SANDY (al182012)



NOAH LSM

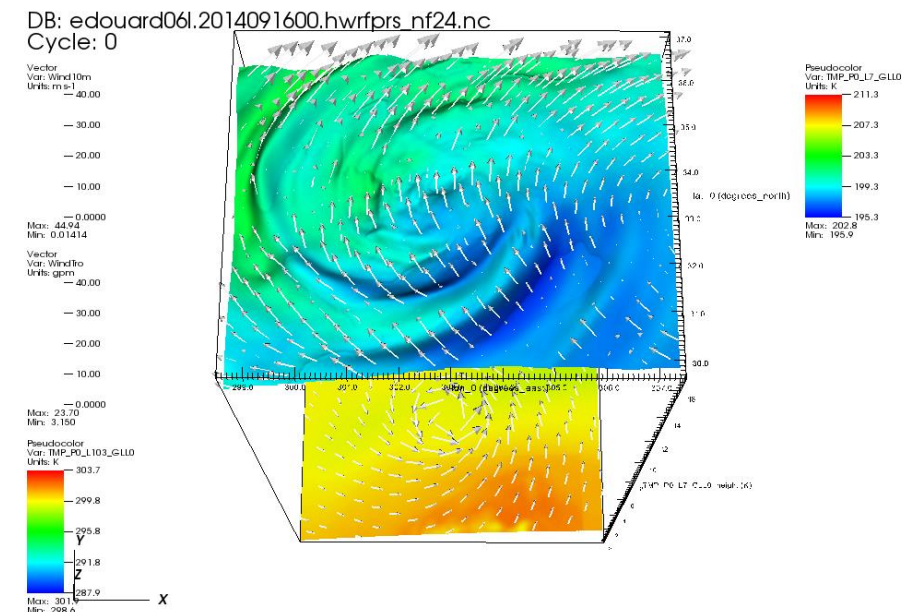
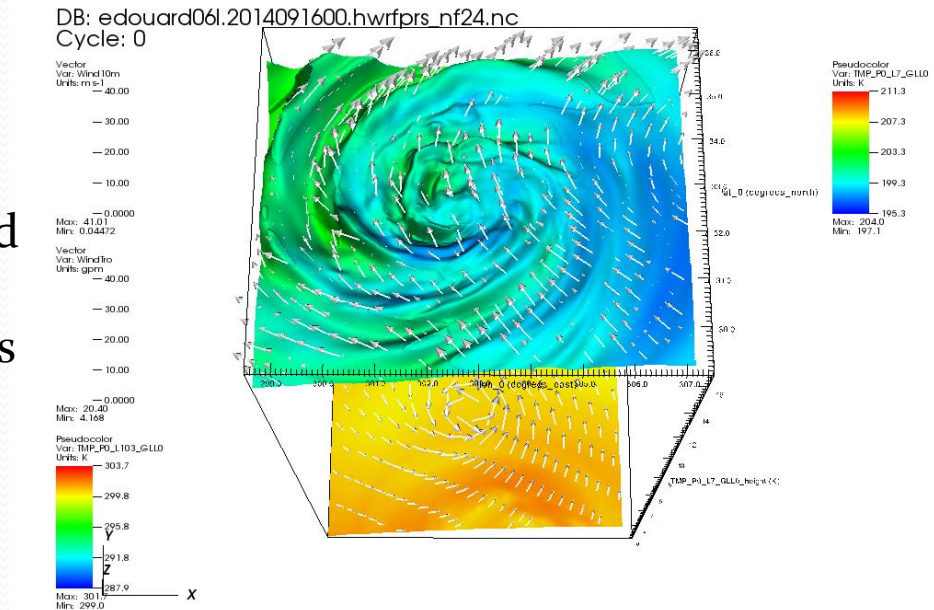
Upgraded Hi-Res Ferrier-Aligo Microphysics

Contributions from EMC MMB (Ferrier & Aligo)

1. New ice nucleation scheme to reduce no. concentration of small ice crystals
2. New, simpler closure for diagnosing small ice crystals and large, precipitating ice particles from ice mixing ratios
3. Slightly slower fall speeds of rimed ice
4. Increase the maximum (minimum) number concentration of small (large) ice in order to simulate better anvil cloud

With
upgraded
Ferrier,
High-Res

H214
Current
Ferrier

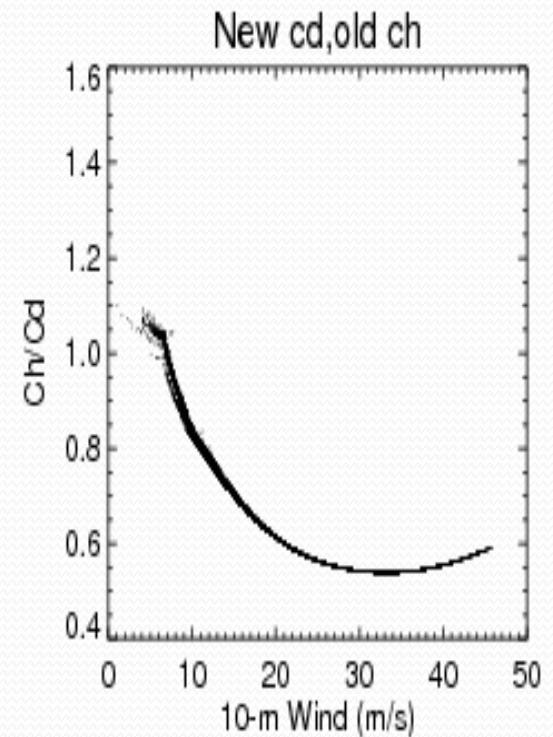
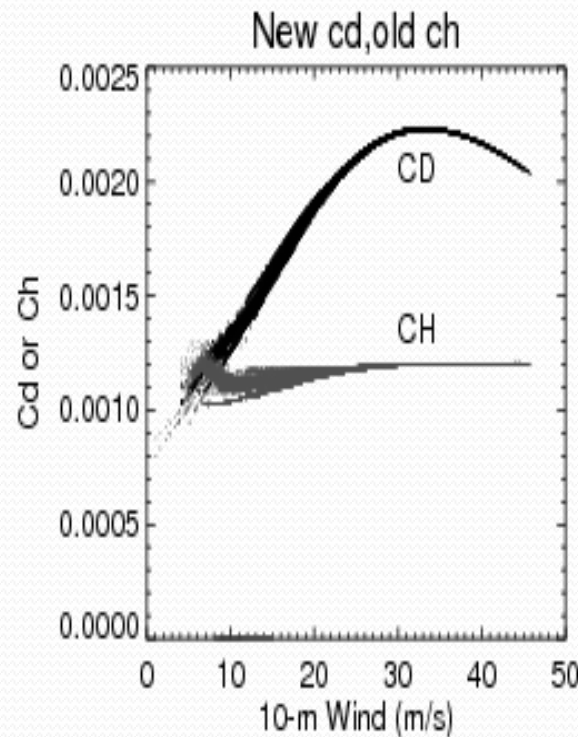


Individual test showed positive impacts on structure and intensity forecasts

Upgraded surface physics

(revised momentum exchange coefficient with inputs from GFDL/URI)

Cd/Ch change, suggested by URI, to better match observations values. The modified configuration provides improved intensity bias.



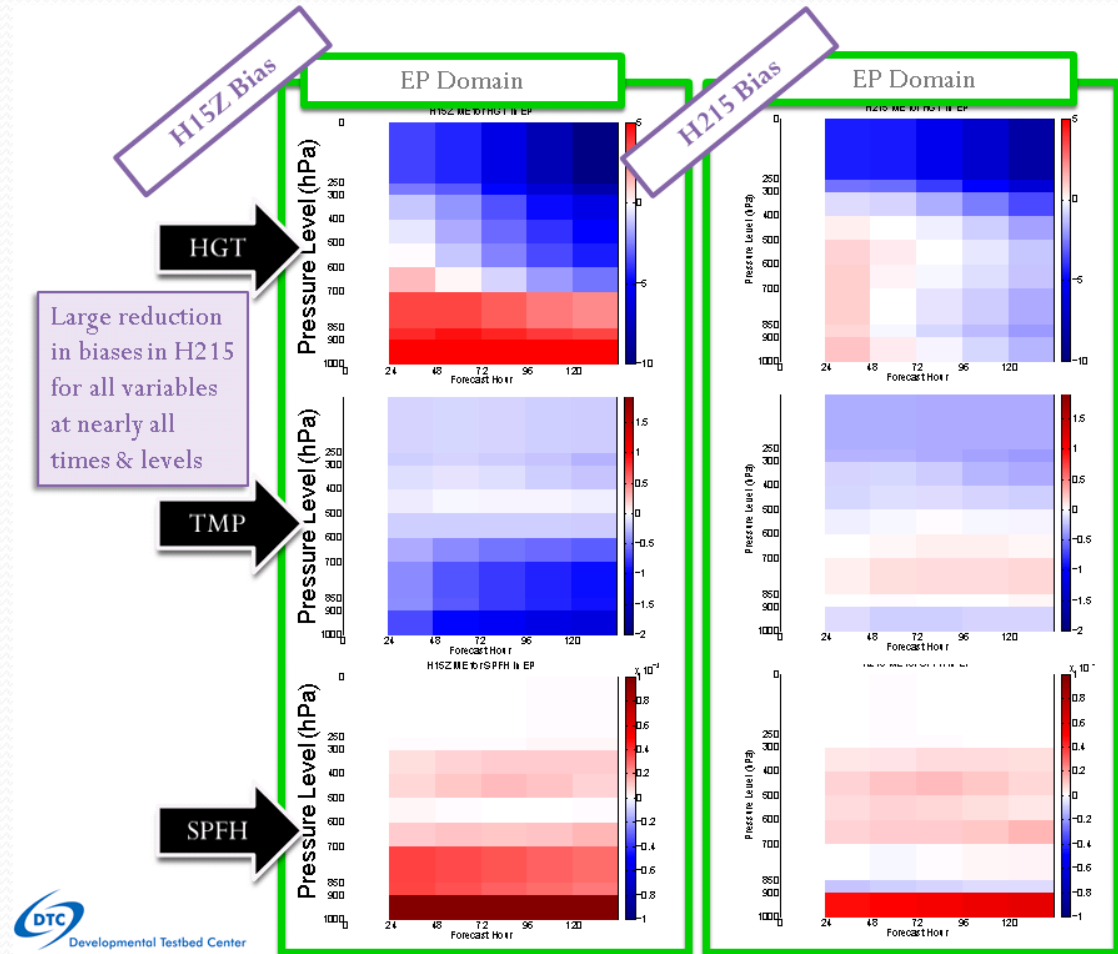
Increase of Ch at higher wind speeds (as implemented in GFDL) was causing model to become unstable and crash for stronger storms, suggestive of strong dependency of heat exchange coefficients at air-sea interface on model horizontal resolution

Upgraded SW/LW radiation schemes and PBL

GFDL radiation to RRTMG with sub-grid-scale cloudiness

(Contributions from DTC, NCAR and UCLA)

1. GFDL radiation schemes have problems of proper representations of cloud-radiation interactions, especially net cloud top cooling and net cloud base warming.
2. Introduced much improved RRTMG radiation with parameterized sub-grid scale cloudiness and variable alpha (wind-speed dependent) vertical mixing coefficient (following work done by Robert Fovell, UCLA; Greg Thompson, NCAR; Ligia Bernardet/Christina Holt, DTC).



Dramatic Reduction in biases for Height, Temperature and Specific Humidity

Code Optimization & Workflow Modifications

- Sped up 2015 HWRF from 160 minutes to 96 minutes
 - Increase from 13 compute nodes to 22 (~2.5x increase w.r.t. WCOSS Phase 1 16 core nodes, to fit of new 24 core Phase 2 compute nodes).
 - Change the task geometry so that WRF compute processors within one compute node are adjacent to one another in a 4x4 grid.
 - Switch to the quilt_pnc implementation of WRF I/O servers. This gained us about 30-35 minutes of runtime.
 - Turn off the logging from all WRF processors. This gained us about 8 minutes of runtime.
- End-to-end HWRF scripting system in Python for all global ocean basins
- Switch to 100% GRIB2 output from HWRF
- Further changes to the HWRF workflow to improve the timing and reliability of forecast delivery
- New procedures for SDM to launch HWRF and GFDL separately



Q3FY15 Hurricane WRF V9.0.0

Project Status as of 03/06/2015



Project Information and Highlights

Lead: Vijay Tallapragada, EMC and Becky Cosgrove, NCO

Scope:

1. Replace current partial HWRF python based scripts with complete Python based scripts for a unified system.
2. Increase the horizontal resolution of atmospheric model for all domains from 27/9/3 to 18/6/2 km.
2. Upgrade and improve HWRF vortex initialization scheme in response to both GFS and HWRF resolution increases.
3. Upgrade Data Assimilation System with hybrid HWRF-based EnKF and GSI system.
4. Upgrade model physics to accommodate model resolution increase, including micro-physics process, radiation, surface physics and PBL.
5. Upgrade current GFDL slab model to NOAA LSM.
6. Upgrade ocean initialization for MIPOM
7. Self cycled HWRF ensembles based warm start for TDR DA
8. Expand HWRF capabilities to all global (including WP/SH/IO) basins through 7-storm capability in operations to run year long

Expected Benefits:

1. Improved track & intensity forecast skill and additional model output for downstream applications



Issues/Risks

Issues:

Risks:

Mitigation:



Scheduling

Milestone (NCEP)	Date	Status
Initial coordination with SPA team	1/31/2015 → 3/13/2015	Complete
EMC testing complete/ EMC CCB approval	3/31/15 → 4/15/2015	
Final Code Delivered to NCO	3/28/2015 → 4/09 → 4/16/2015	
Technical Information Notice Issued	3/17 → 4/29/2015	
Initial Test Complete	4/30 → 5/15 → 5/22/2015	
Test with specific cases	4/17 → 4/24 → 4/30/2015	
Testing Ends	4/24 → 5/04 → 5/11/2015	
IT testing ends	5/05 → 5/15/2015	
Management Briefing	5/09 → 5/25/2015	
Operational Implementation	5/25 → 5/26/2015	



Finances

Associated Costs:

Funding Sources: EMC Base: T2O 18 Man-months (3 FTE full time for 6 months). NCO Base: 2 man-months for implementation, 1 man-month annually for maintenance



Management Attention Required



Potential Management Attention Needed



On Target

HWRF Upgrade Plan for 2015 Implementation

Multi-season Pre-Implementation T&E

12

	GFS Upgrades	Model upgrades	Physics and DA upgrades				Combined
	Control (H15Z)	Baseline (H15B)	NOAH LSM (H15W)	Upgraded Ferrier (H15W)	RRTMG/ PBL/ Surface Physics (H15W)	DA* (H15T)	H215
Description	Create a new control configuration of 2014 Operational HWRF run with newly upgraded GFS T1534 IC/BC	1.Resolution increase: 18/6/2km w/ same domain size; 2. Python scripts 3. New GFS T1534 4. Init improvement, GFS vortex filter	NOAH LSM (w/ Ch cap over land)	Separate species, w/o advection	1.Radiation 2.Variable α 3.Scale-aware partial cloudiness scheme	Hybrid GSI/ HWRF- EPS based DA	Baseline + NOAH/LSM +newMP+RRTMG+ Surface Physics + PBL + DA changes
Cases	Four-season 2011-2014 simulations in ATL/EPAC, cases (~2300)	Four-season 2011-2014 simulations in ATL/EPAC, cases (~2300)	Priority cases	Priority cases	Priority cases	Only TDR cases for 2011-2014	Four-season 2011-2014 simulations in ATL/EPAC, cases (~2300) WP/SH/IO 2013-2014 (~1200 cases)
Platforms	Jet/WCOSS	Jet	WCOSS	Jet	Jet/Zeus	Jet	Jet/WCOSS/Zeus

The plan is based on the assumption that 2015 operational HWRF system will have 3x computer resources within the HWRF operational time window. We will be using only 2.5X for each storm

** DA experiment requires additional computer resources outside current operational time window.*

Acronyms

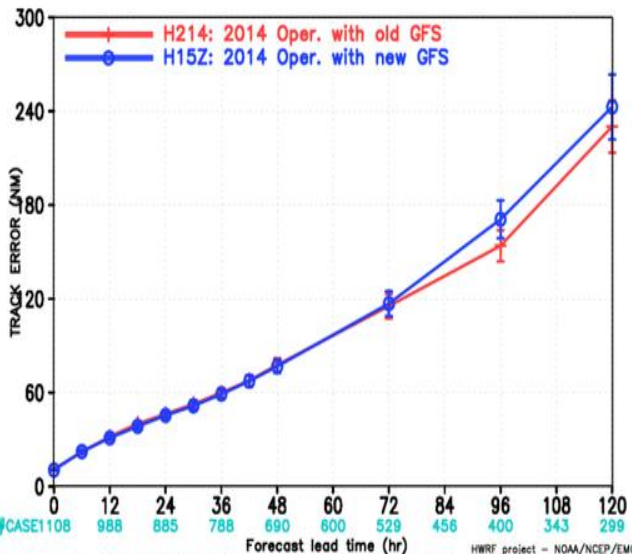
- **H214**: 2014 version of operational HWRF, 27/9/3km resolution, L61, input: T574 L64 GFS (Spectral files for both IC and BC);
- **H15Z**: H214 driven by New GFS (Control)
- **H15B**: FY15 HWRF baseline, 18/6/2km resolution, L61, input: T1534L64 GFS (Spectral files for both IC and BC);
- **H215**: H15B + All Physics + DA upgrades;



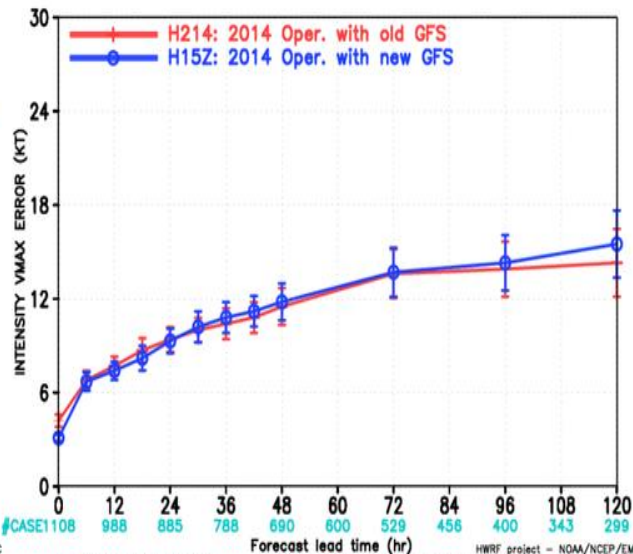
Verification for Atlantic Storms (2011-2014)

Impact of New GFS, NATL, 2011-2014

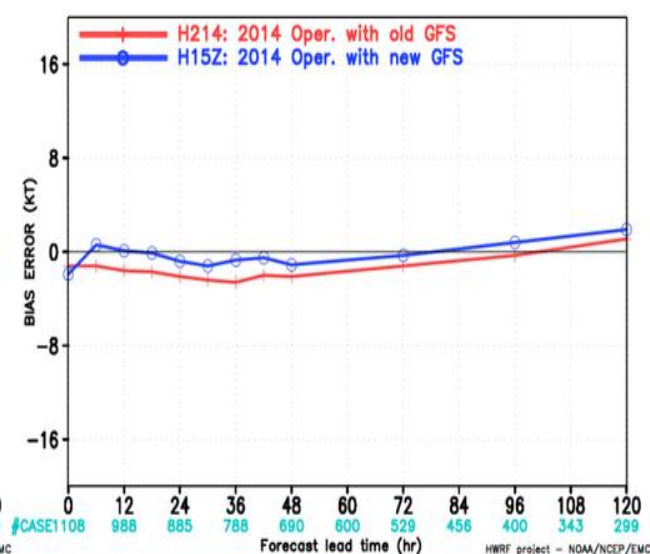
HWRF FORECAST – TRACK ERROR (NM) STATISTICS
VERIFICATION FOR NATL BASIN 2011–2014



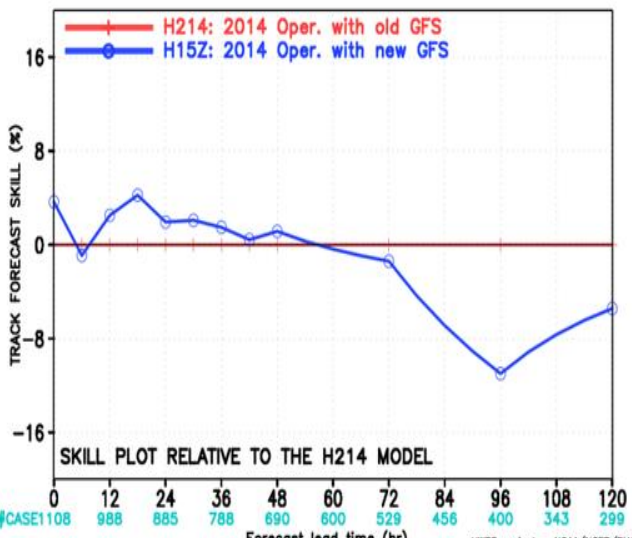
HWRF FORECAST – INTENSITY VMAX ERROR (KT) STATISTICS
VERIFICATION FOR NATL BASIN 2011–2014



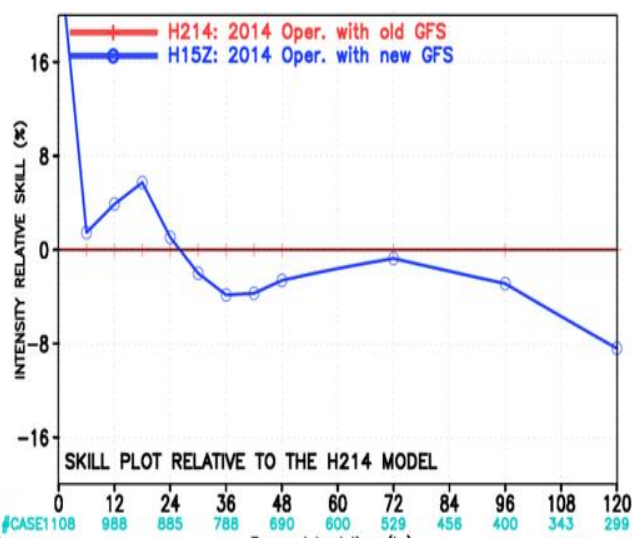
HWRF FORECAST – BIAS ERROR (KT) STATISTICS
VERIFICATION FOR NATL BASIN 2011–2014



HWRF FORECAST – TRACK FORECAST SKILL (%) STATISTICS
VERIFICATION FOR NATL BASIN 2011–2014



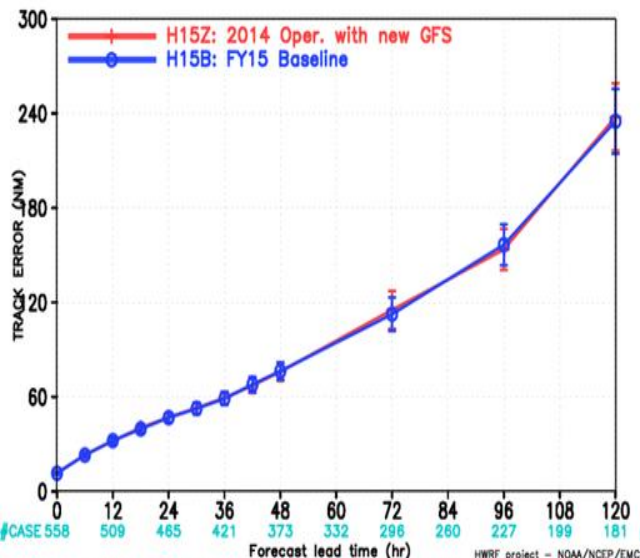
HWRF FORECAST – INTENSITY RELATIVE SKILL (%) STATISTICS
VERIFICATION FOR NATL BASIN 2011–2014



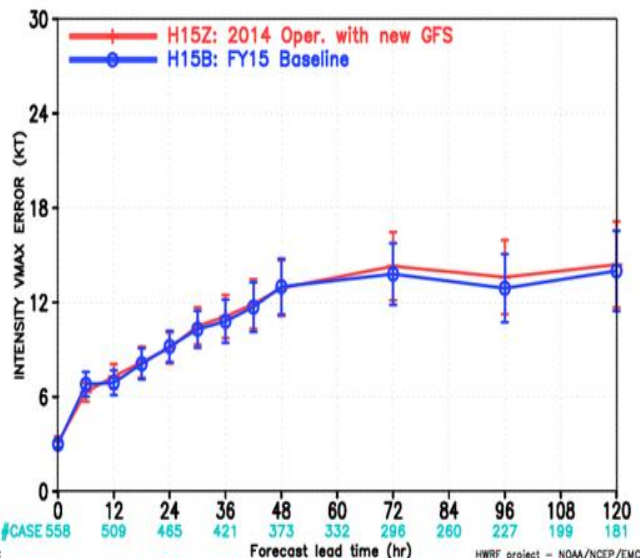
New GFS degraded track/intensity forecasts in the Atlantic Basin

Impact of HWRF Resolution Increase, NATL, 2011-2014

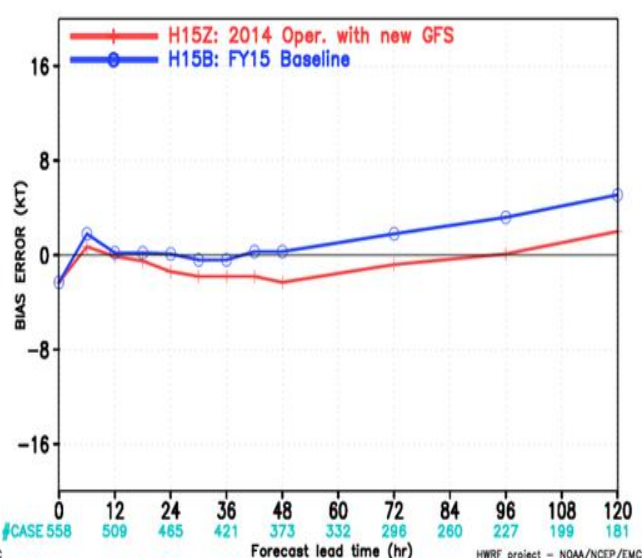
HWRF FORECAST – TRACK ERROR (NM) STATISTICS
VERIFICATION FOR NATL BASIN 2011–2014



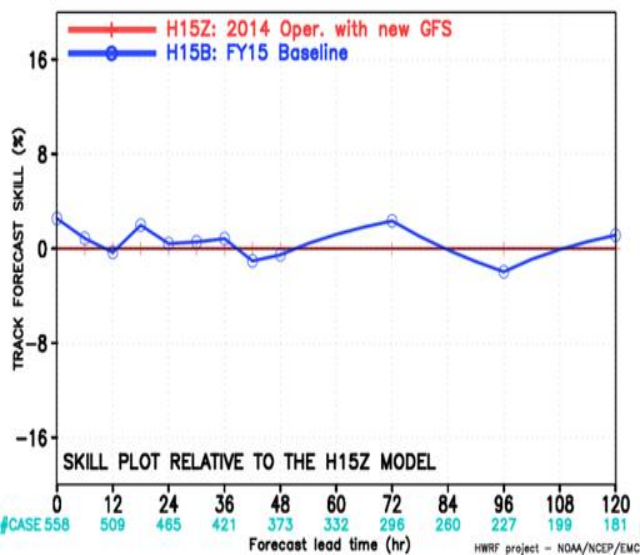
HWRF FORECAST – INTENSITY VMAX ERROR (KT) STATISTICS
VERIFICATION FOR NATL BASIN 2011–2014



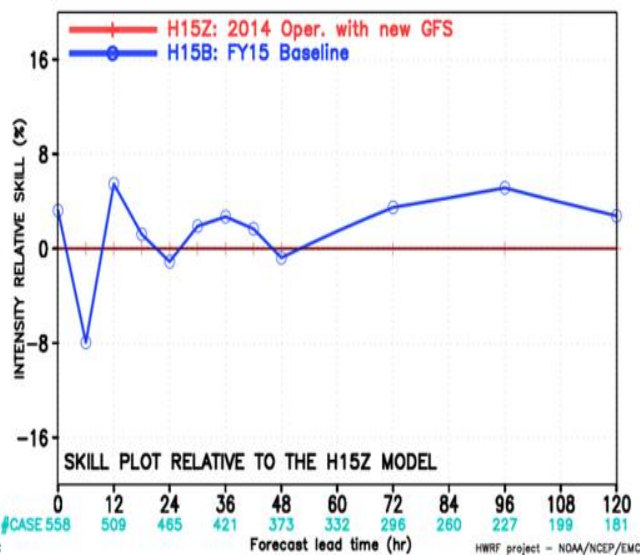
HWRF FORECAST – BIAS ERROR (KT) STATISTICS
VERIFICATION FOR NATL BASIN 2011–2014



HWRF FORECAST – TRACK FORECAST SKILL (%) STATISTICS
VERIFICATION FOR NATL BASIN 2011–2014



HWRF FORECAST – INTENSITY RELATIVE SKILL (%) STATISTICS
VERIFICATION FOR NATL BASIN 2011–2014



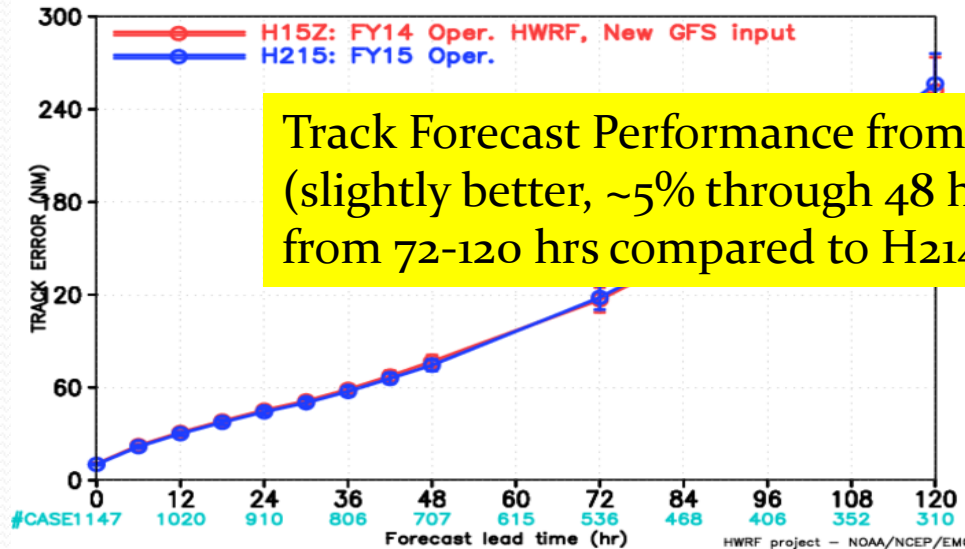
Neutral track impact;
Neutral to positive intensity
impact;
Relative large intensity bias;

*Resolution upgrades and
vortex initialization changes
have offset the loss of skill
due to new GFS*

Impact of Physics, Resolution & New GFS, (H215 vs H15Z & H214)

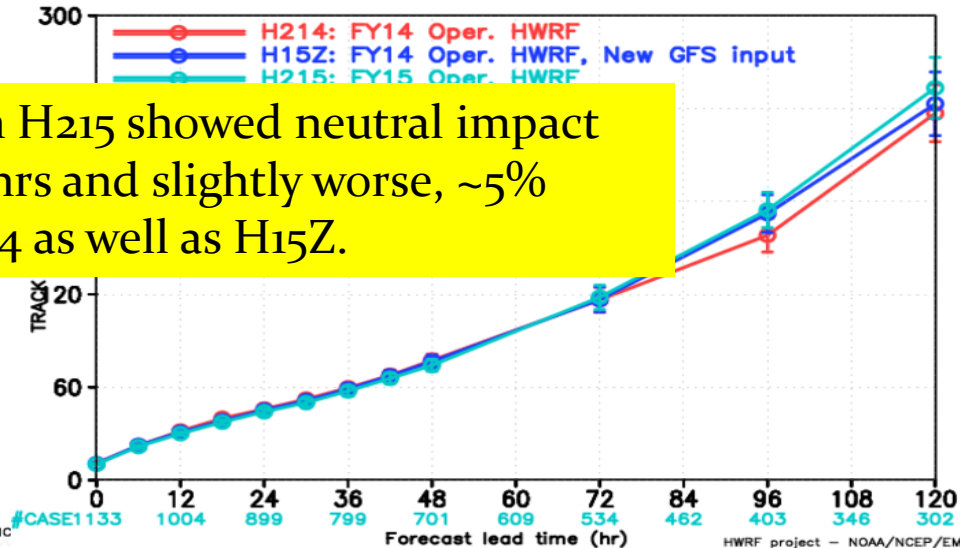
NATL Track Forecasts 2011-2014

HWRF FORECAST — TRACK ERROR (NM) STATISTICS
VERIFICATION FOR NATL BASIN 2011–2014

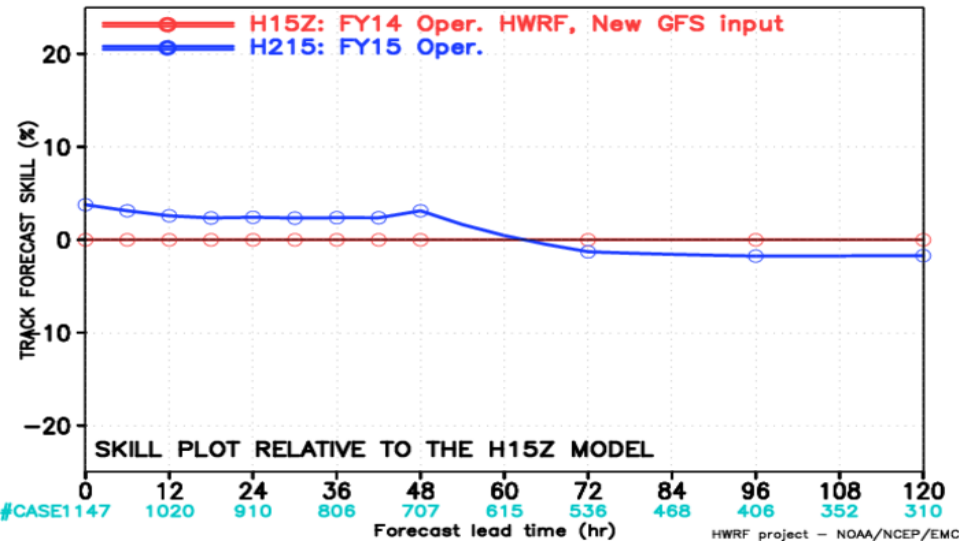


Track Forecast Performance from H215 showed neutral impact (slightly better, ~5% through 48 hrs and slightly worse, ~5% from 72-120 hrs compared to H214 as well as H15Z).

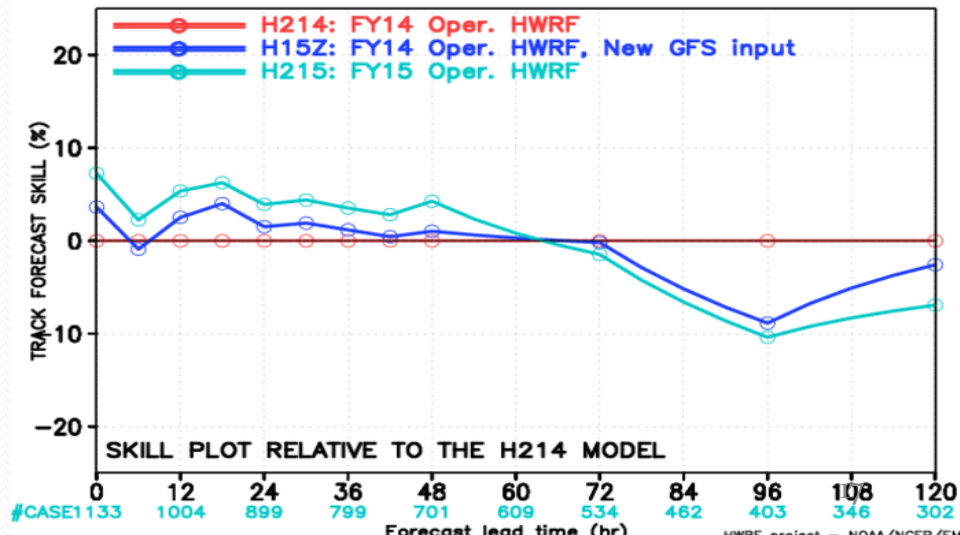
HWRF FORECAST — TRACK ERROR (NM) STATISTICS
VERIFICATION FOR NATL BASIN 2011–2014



HWRF FORECAST — TRACK FORECAST SKILL (%) STATISTICS
VERIFICATION FOR NATL BASIN 2011–2014



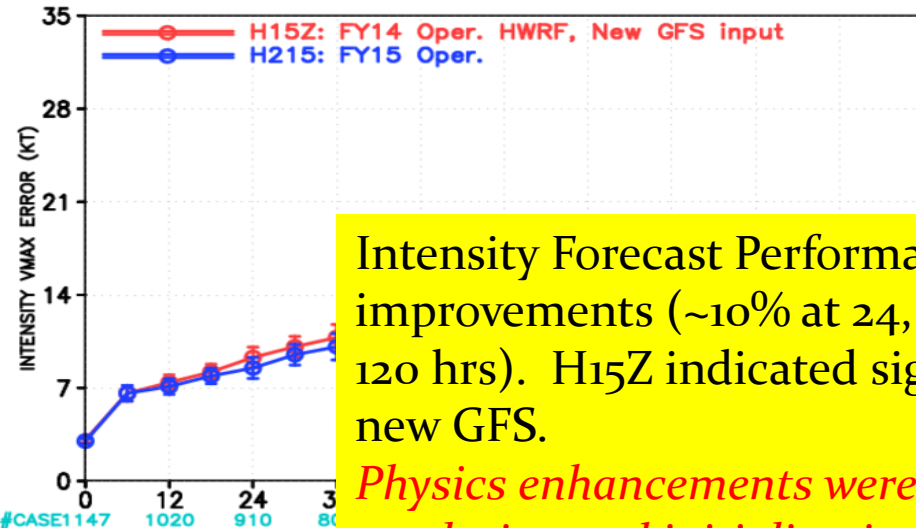
HWRF FORECAST — TRACK FORECAST SKILL (%) STATISTICS
VERIFICATION FOR NATL BASIN 2011–2014



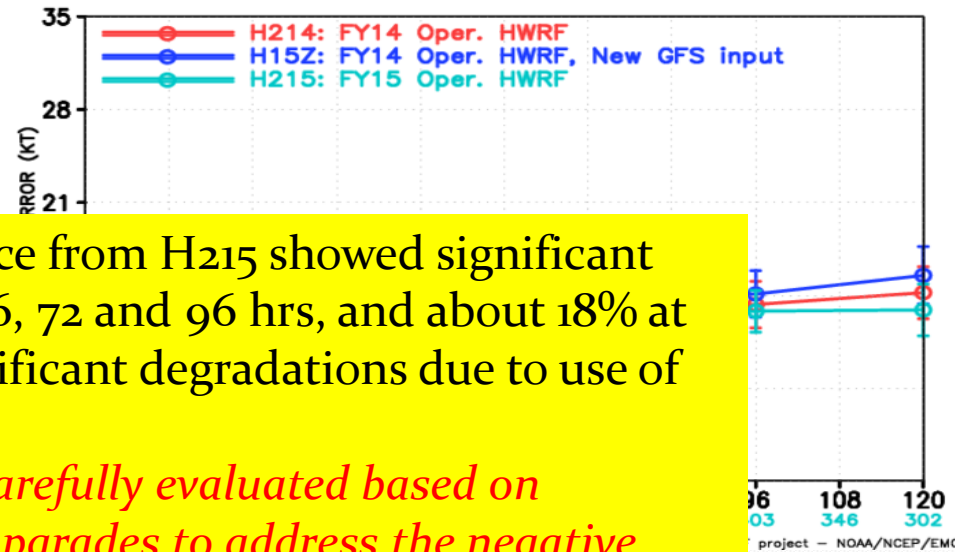
Impact of Physics, Resolution & New GFS, (H215 vs H15Z & H214)

NATL Intensity Error Forecasts 2011-2014

HWRP FORECAST — INTENSITY VMAX ERROR (KT) STATISTICS
VERIFICATION FOR NATL BASIN 2011–2014



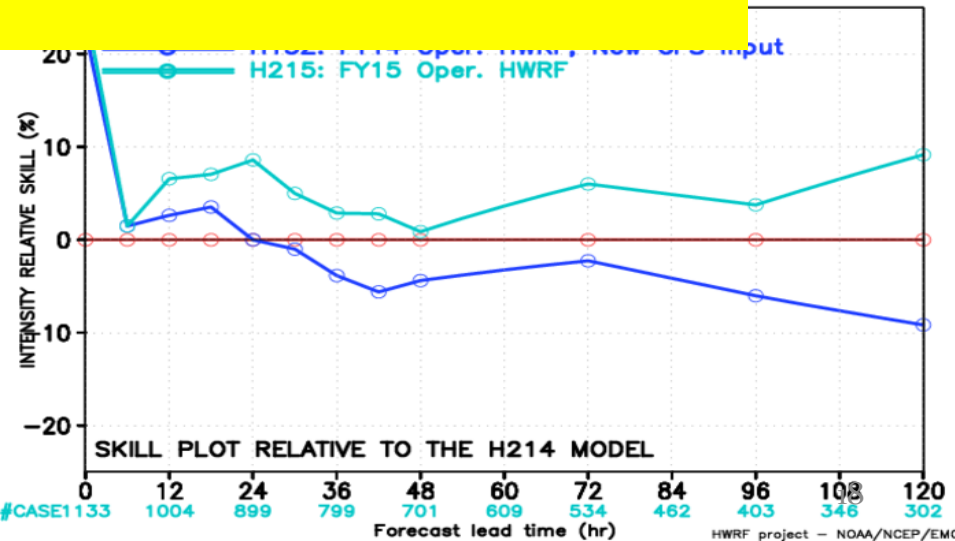
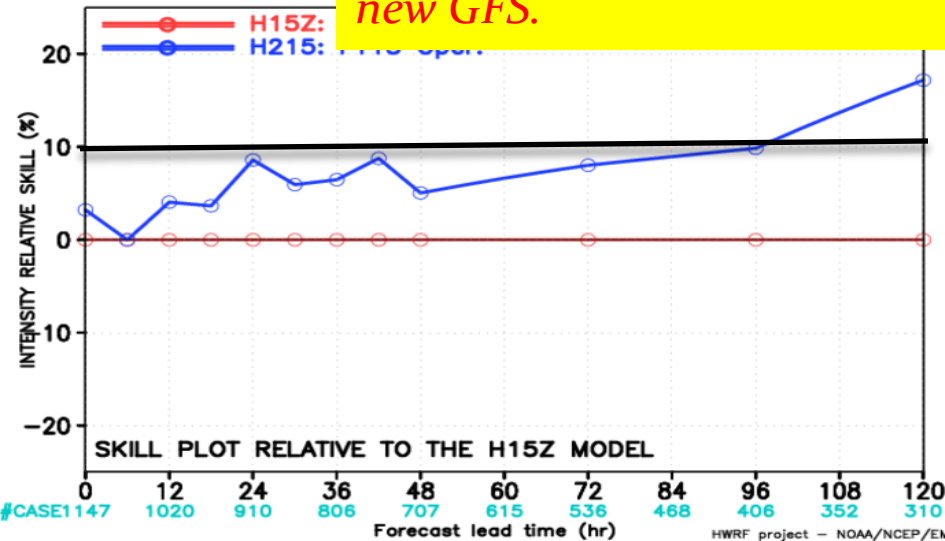
HWRP FORECAST — INTENSITY VMAX ERROR (KT) STATISTICS
VERIFICATION FOR NATL BASIN 2011–2014



Intensity Forecast Performance from H215 showed significant improvements (~10% at 24, 36, 72 and 96 hrs, and about 18% at 120 hrs). H15Z indicated significant degradations due to use of new GFS.

Physics enhancements were carefully evaluated based on resolution and initialization upgrades to address the negative impacts noted in H214 evaluation as well as degradations due to new GFS.

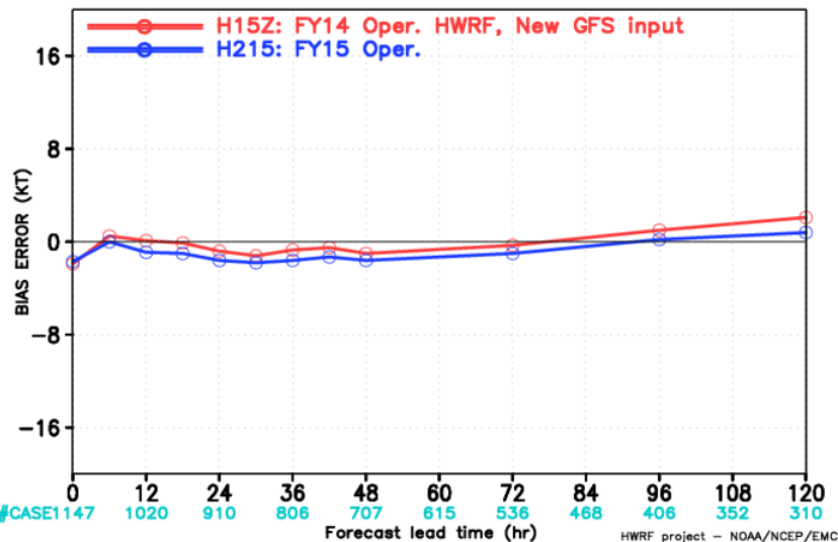
HWRP FORECAST
VERIFICATION



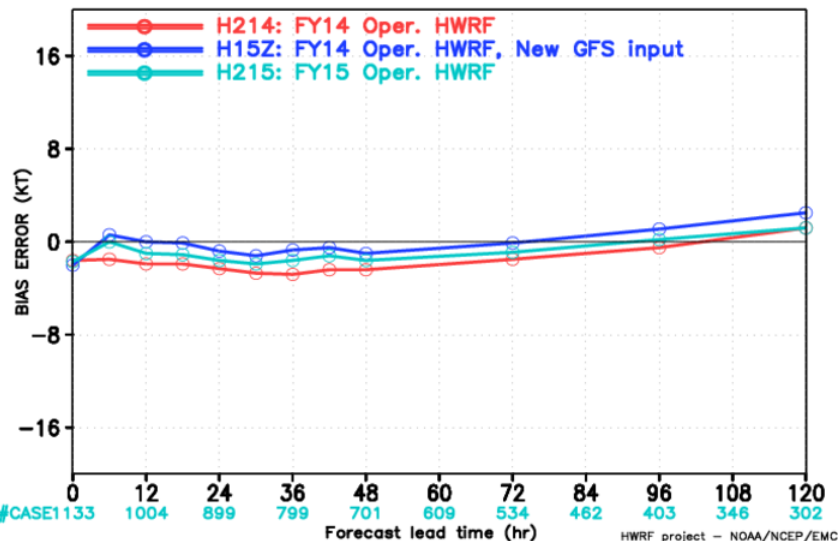
Impact of Physics, Resolution & New GFS, (H215 vs H15Z & H214)

NATL Intensity Bias Forecasts 2011-2014

HWRP FORECAST – BIAS ERROR (KT) STATISTICS
VERIFICATION FOR NATL BASIN 2011–2014

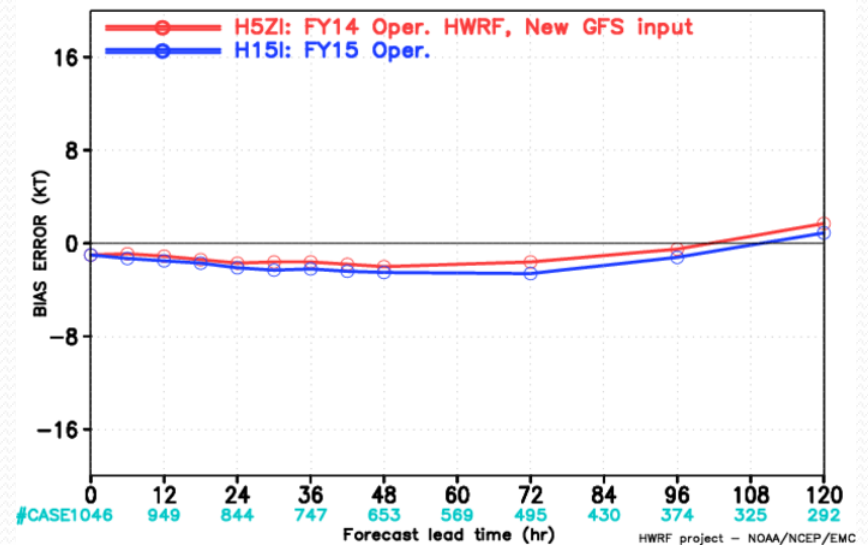


HWRP FORECAST – BIAS ERROR (KT) STATISTICS
VERIFICATION FOR NATL BASIN 2011–2014



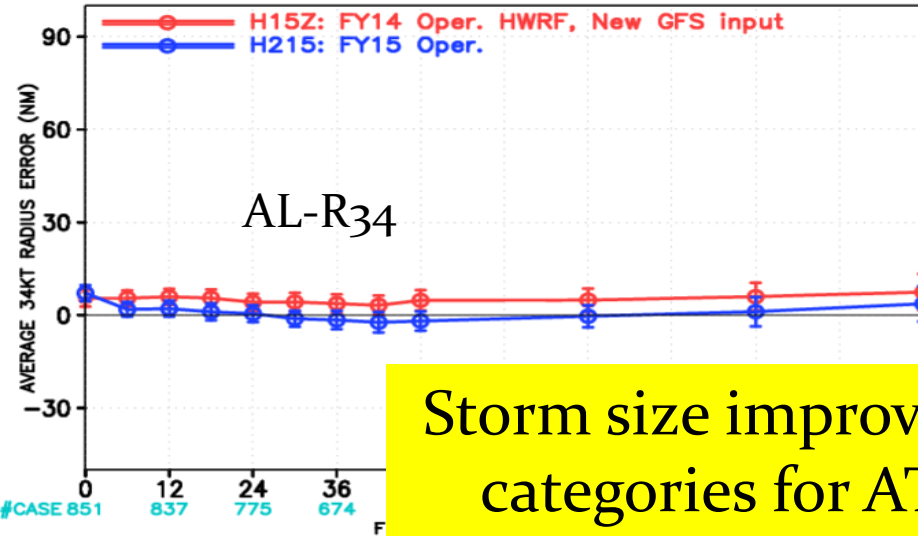
Intensity Forecast Bias stayed largely neutral, with slight improvements compared to H214/H15Z, trending towards positive bias at day-5.

HWRP FORECAST – BIAS ERROR (KT) STATISTICS
VERIFICATION FOR NATL BASIN 2011–2014

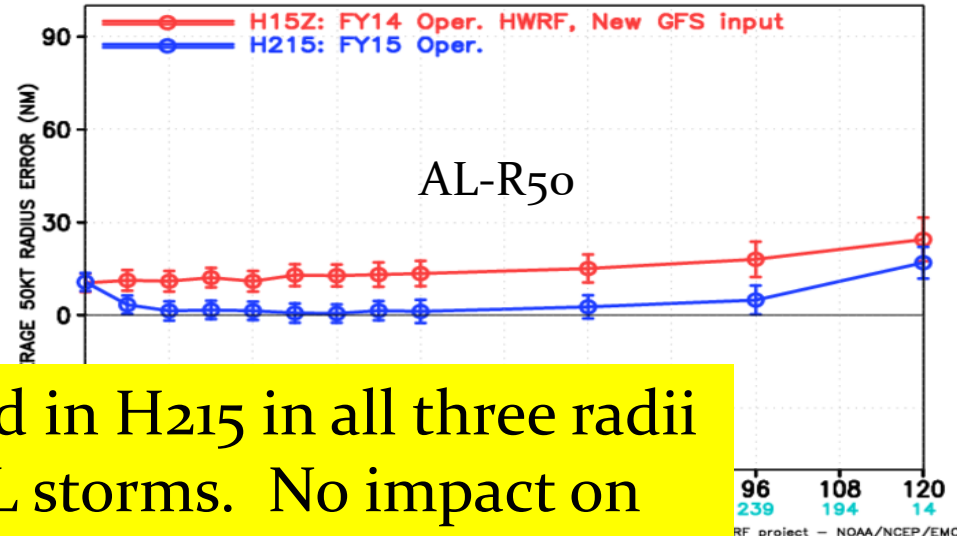


Storm Structure Verification for H215 vs H15Z, NATL 2011-2014

HWRP FORECAST — AVERAGE 34KT RADIUS ERROR (NM) STATISTICS
VERIFICATION FOR NATL BASIN 2011-2014

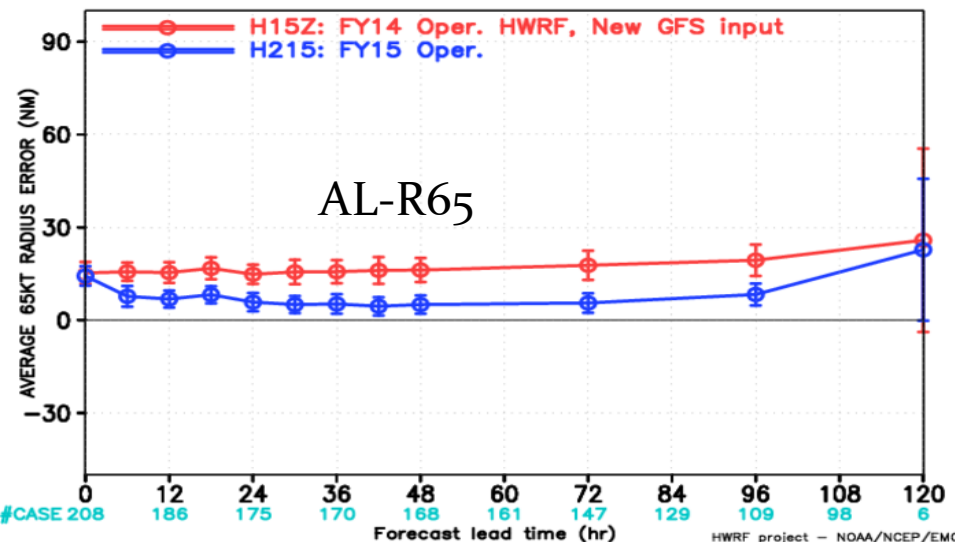


HWRP FORECAST — AVERAGE 50KT RADIUS ERROR (NM) STATISTICS
VERIFICATION FOR NATL BASIN 2011-2014

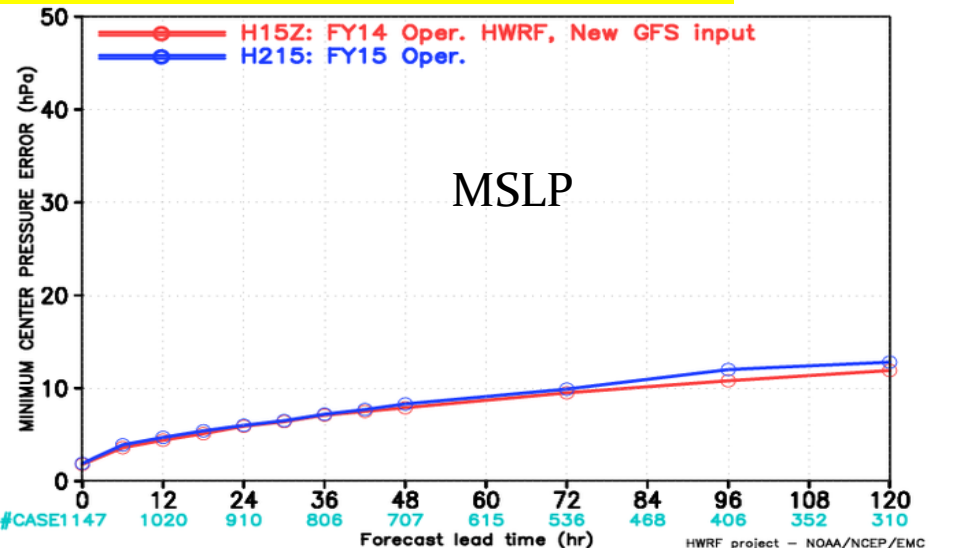


Storm size improved in H215 in all three radii categories for ATL storms. No impact on MSLP forecasts

HWRP FORECAST — AVERAGE 65KT RADIUS ERROR (NM) STATISTICS
VERIFICATION FOR NATL BASIN 2011-2014

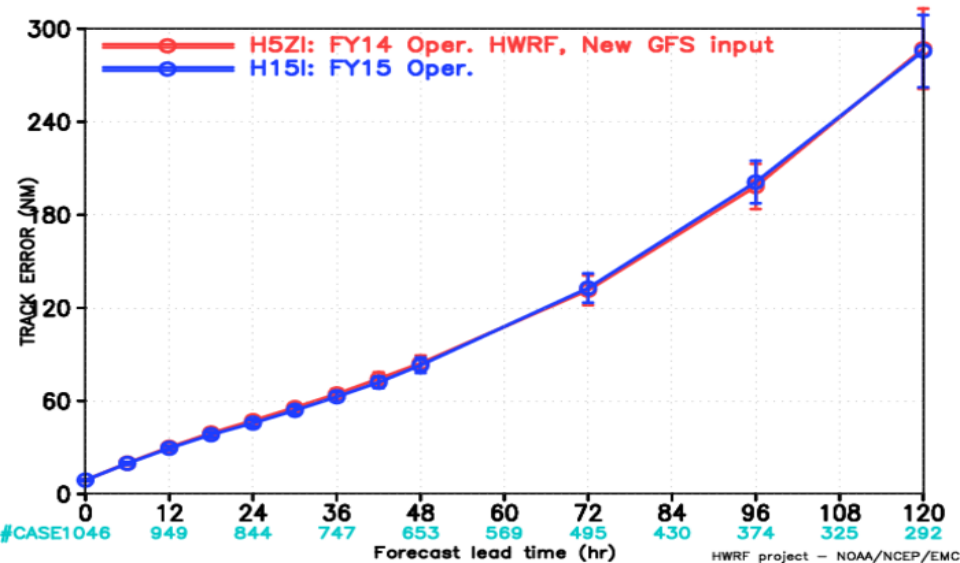


HWRP FORECAST — AVERAGE 50KT RADIUS ERROR (NM) STATISTICS
VERIFICATION FOR NATL BASIN 2011-2014

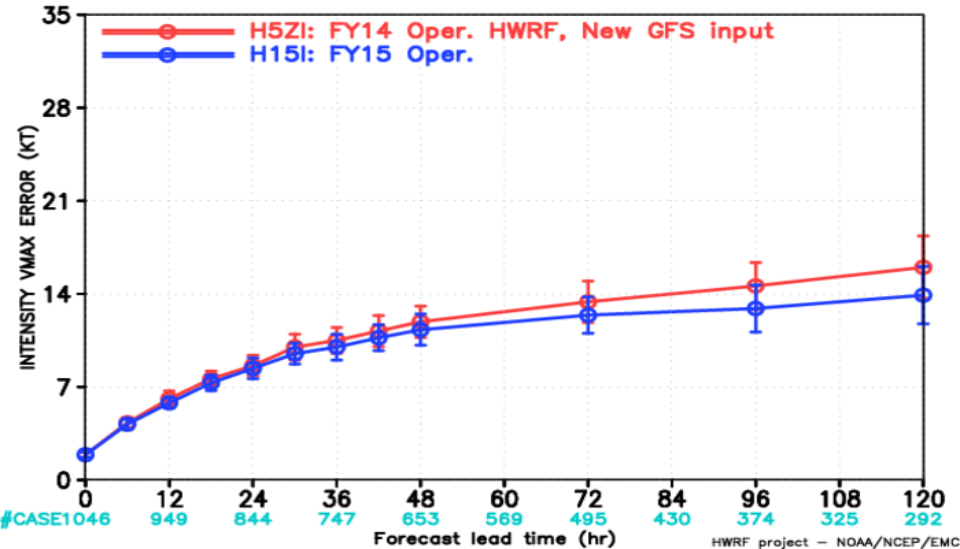


Verification of interpolated guidance, H15I vs. H5ZI, NATL 2011-2014

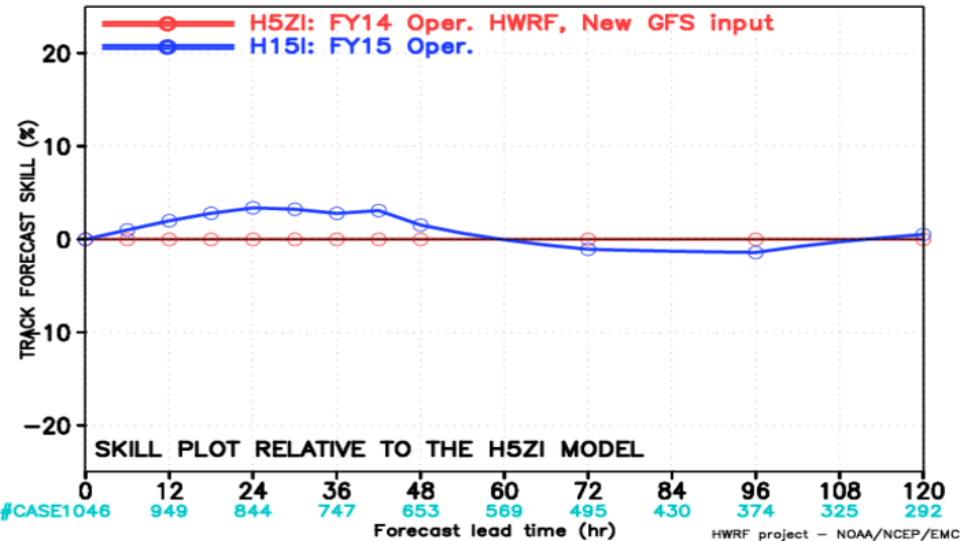
HWRP FORECAST — TRACK ERROR (NM) STATISTICS
VERIFICATION FOR NATL BASIN 2011–2014



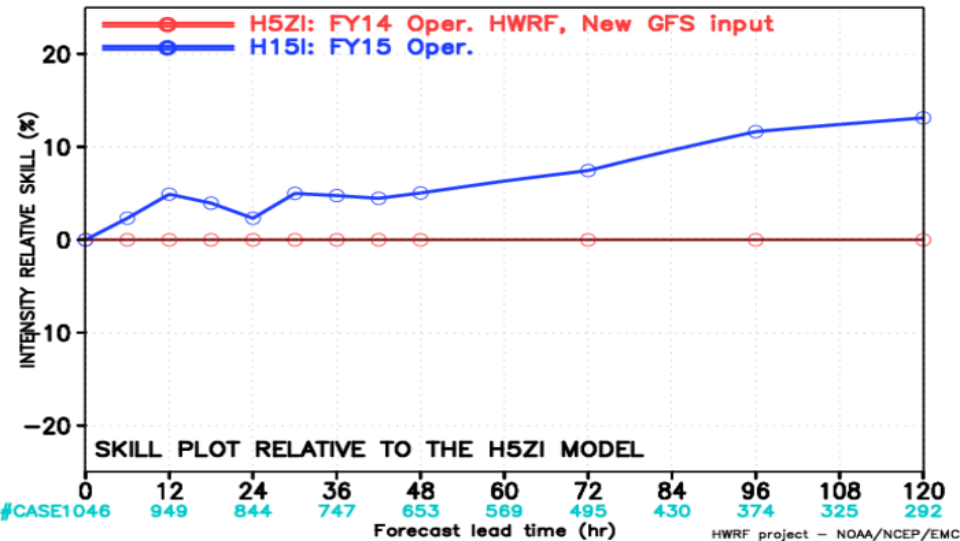
HWRP FORECAST — INTENSITY VMAX ERROR (KT) STATISTICS
VERIFICATION FOR NATL BASIN 2011–2014



HWRP FORECAST — TRACK FORECAST SKILL (%) STATISTICS
VERIFICATION FOR NATL BASIN 2011–2014



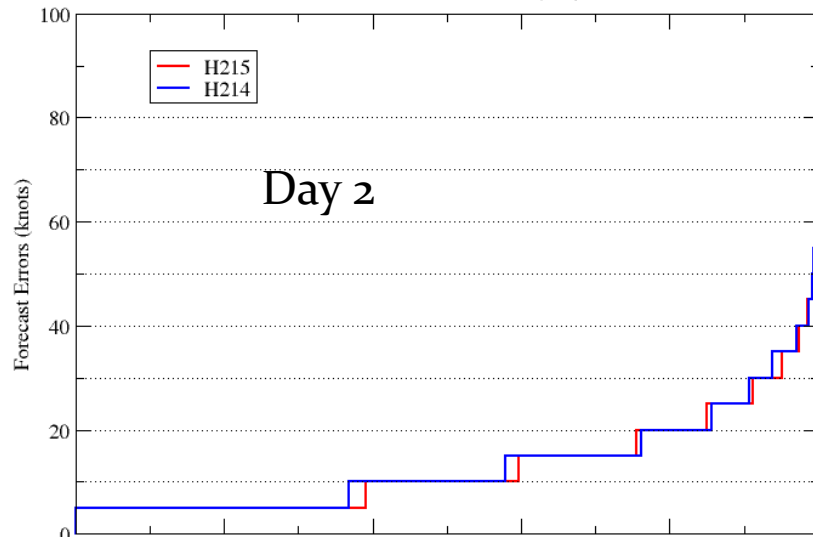
HWRP FORECAST — INTENSITY RELATIVE SKILL (%) STATISTICS
VERIFICATION FOR NATL BASIN 2011–2014



Improvement of Intensity Errors from H215, NATL 2011-2014

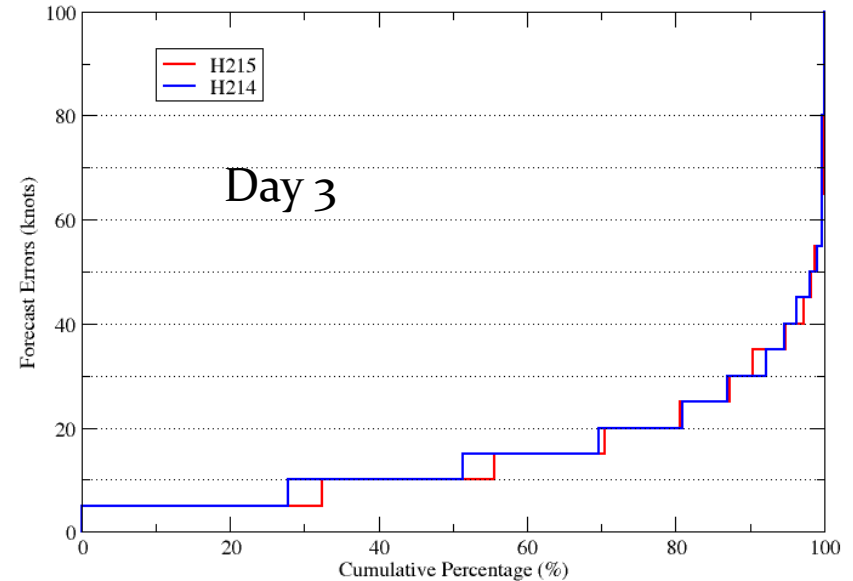
H215 vs H214 Intensity Error Cumulative Distribution

Atlantic Basin 2011-2014 (48h)



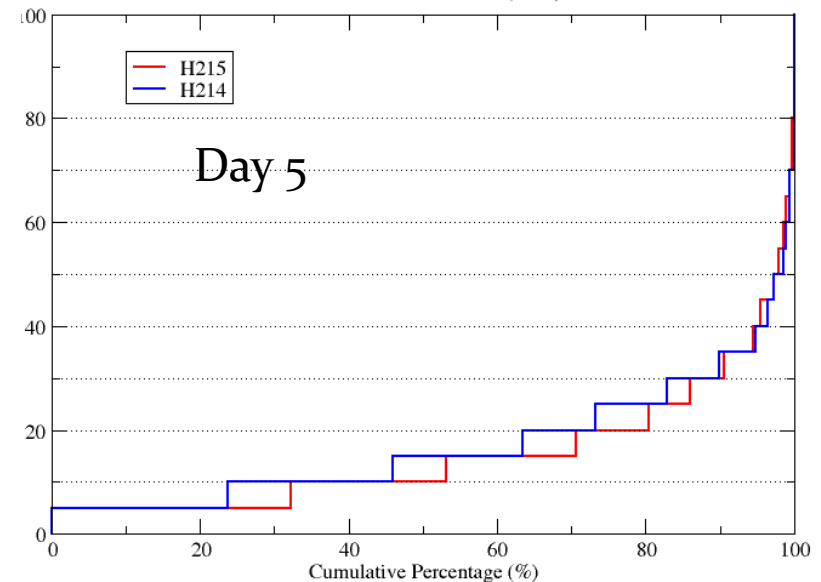
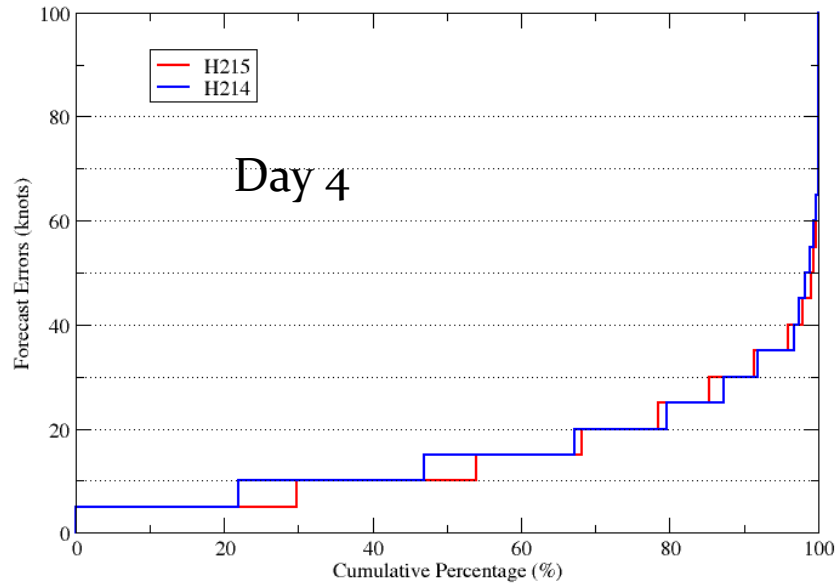
H215 vs H214 Intensity Error Cumulative Distribution

Atlantic Basin 2011-2014 (72h)

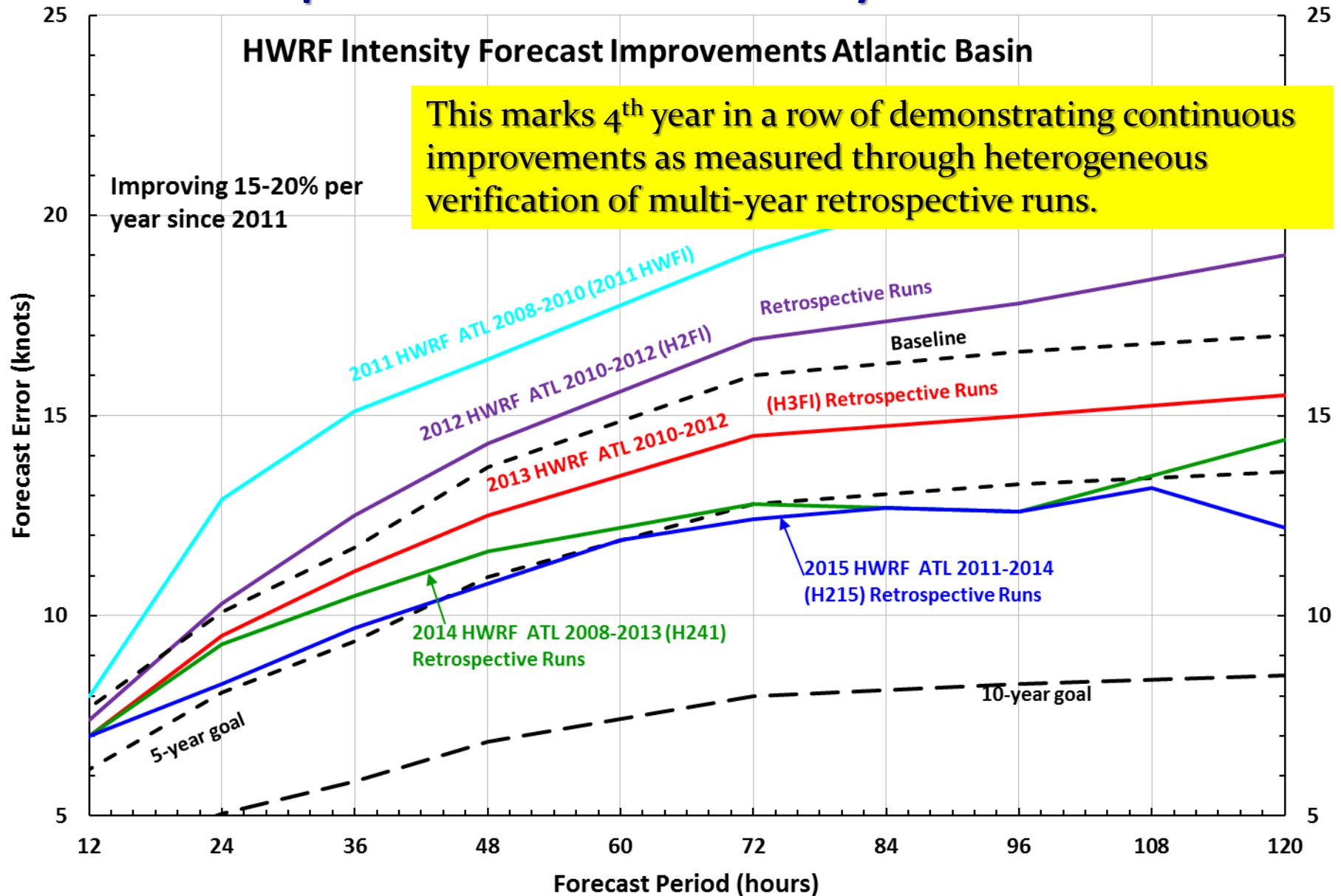


H215 vs H214 Intensity Error Cumulative Distribution

Atlantic Basin 2011-2014 (96h)



2015 HWRF: Continuing the trend of incremental but substantial improvements in NATL intensity forecasts

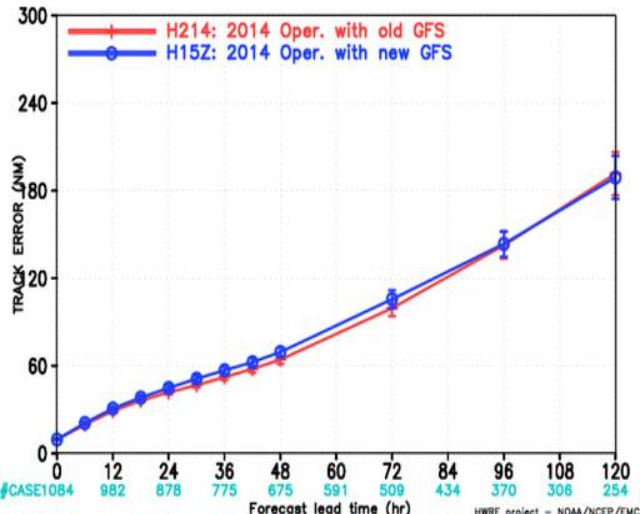




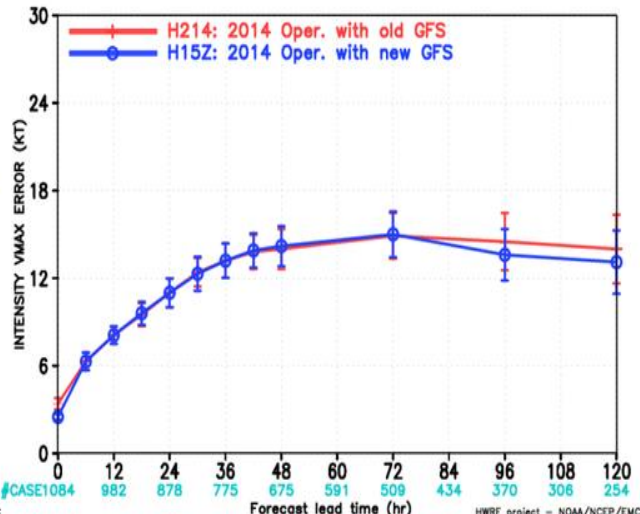
Verification for East-Pacific Storms (2011-2014)

Impact of new GFS, EP, 2011-2014

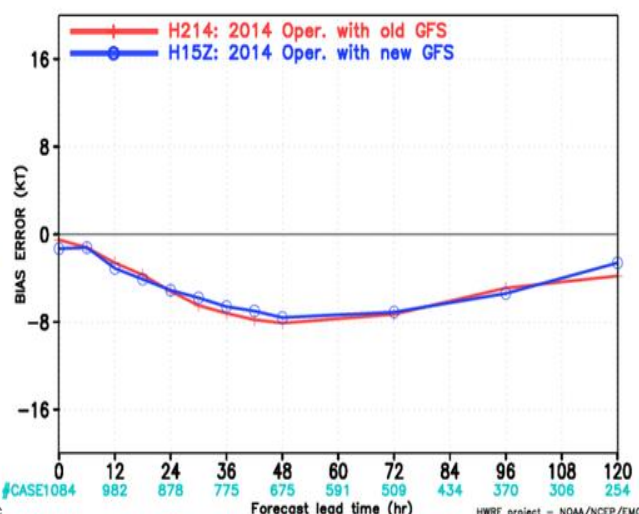
HWRf FORECAST – TRACK ERROR (NM) STATISTICS
VERIFICATION FOR EPAC BASIN 2011–2014



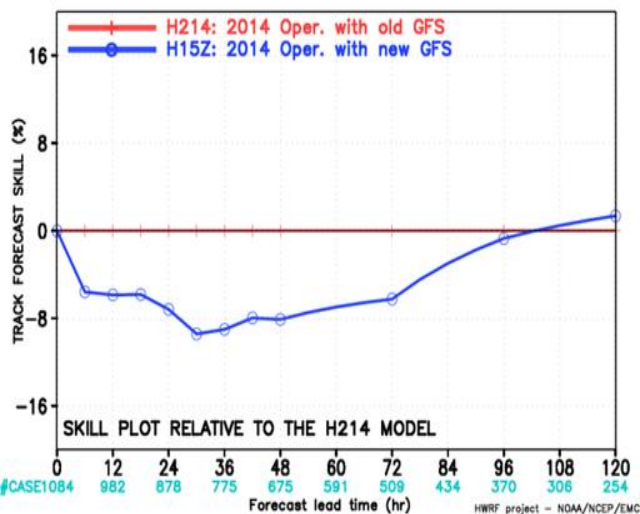
HWRf FORECAST – INTENSITY VMAX ERROR (KT) STATISTICS
VERIFICATION FOR EPAC BASIN 2011–2014



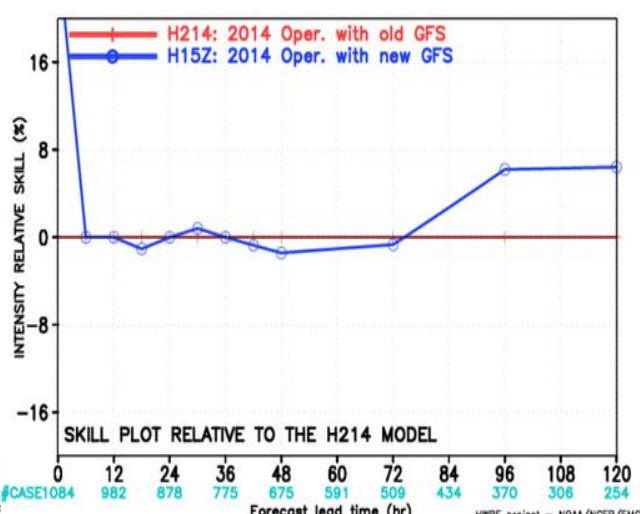
HWRf FORECAST – BIAS ERROR (KT) STATISTICS
VERIFICATION FOR EPAC BASIN 2011–2014



HWRf FORECAST – TRACK FORECAST SKILL (%) STATISTICS
VERIFICATION FOR EPAC BASIN 2011–2014



HWRf FORECAST – INTENSITY RELATIVE SKILL (%) STATISTICS
VERIFICATION FOR EPAC BASIN 2011–2014

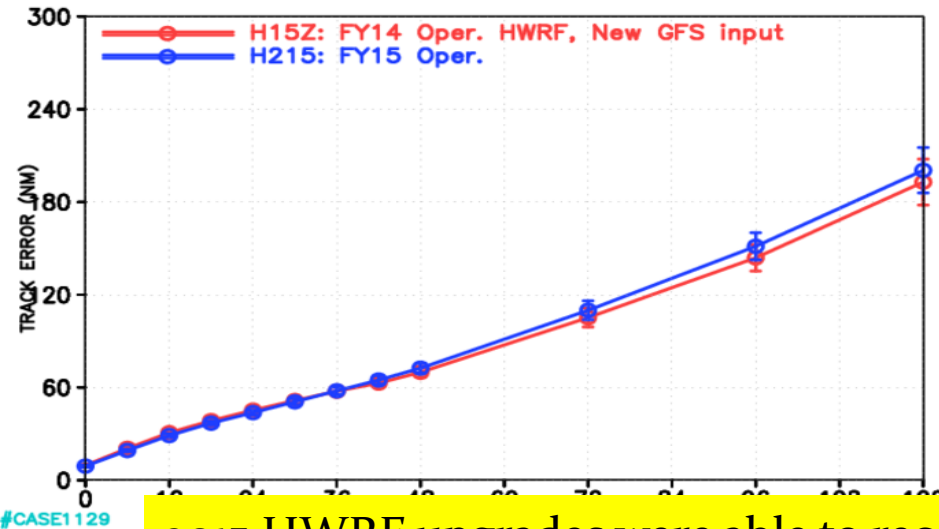


Track Forecast degraded from using new GFS upgrade. Some improvement in intensity forecasts at days 4/5, neutral intensity bias

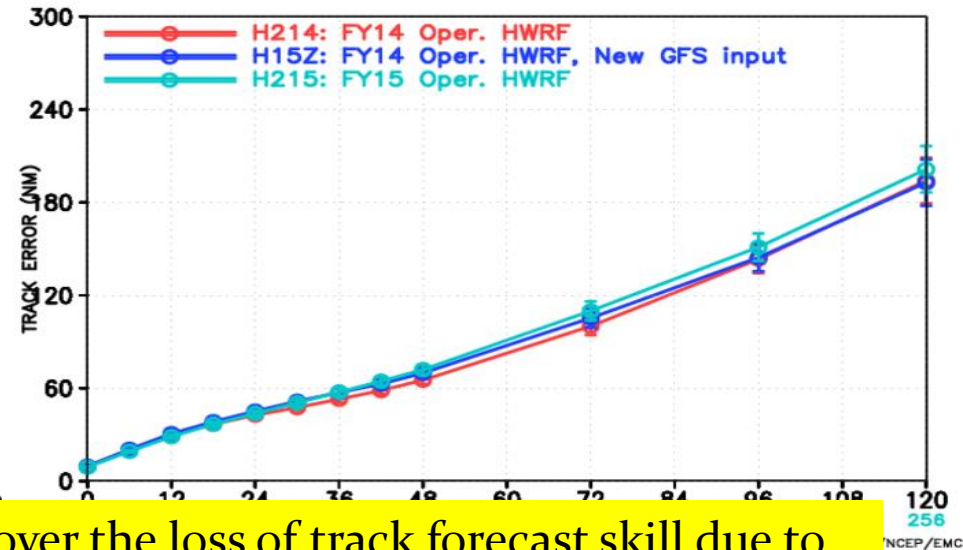
Impact of Physics, Resolution & New GFS, (H215 vs H15Z & H214)

EP Track Forecasts 2011-2014

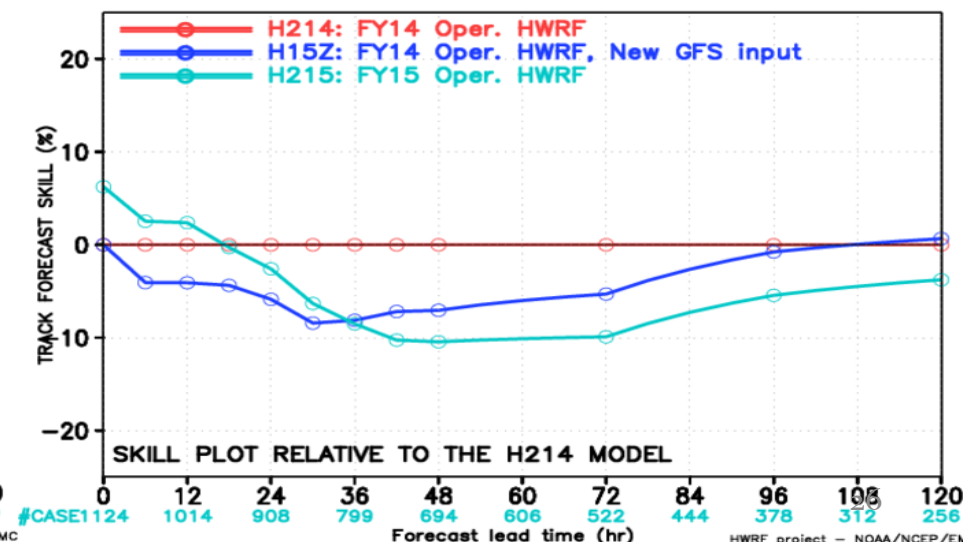
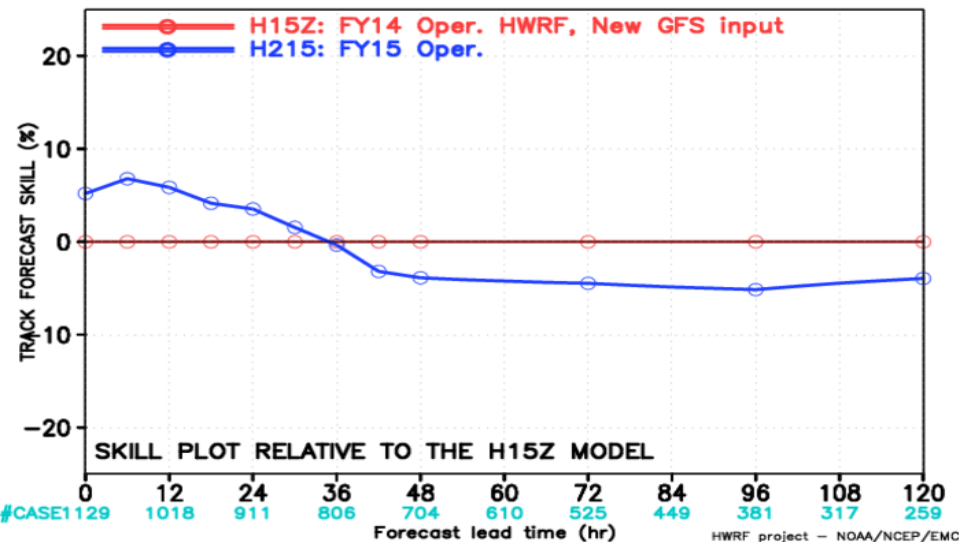
HWRP FORECAST — TRACK ERROR (NM) STATISTICS
VERIFICATION FOR EPAC BASIN 2011–2014



HWRP FORECAST — TRACK ERROR (NM) STATISTICS
VERIFICATION FOR EPAC BASIN 2011–2014



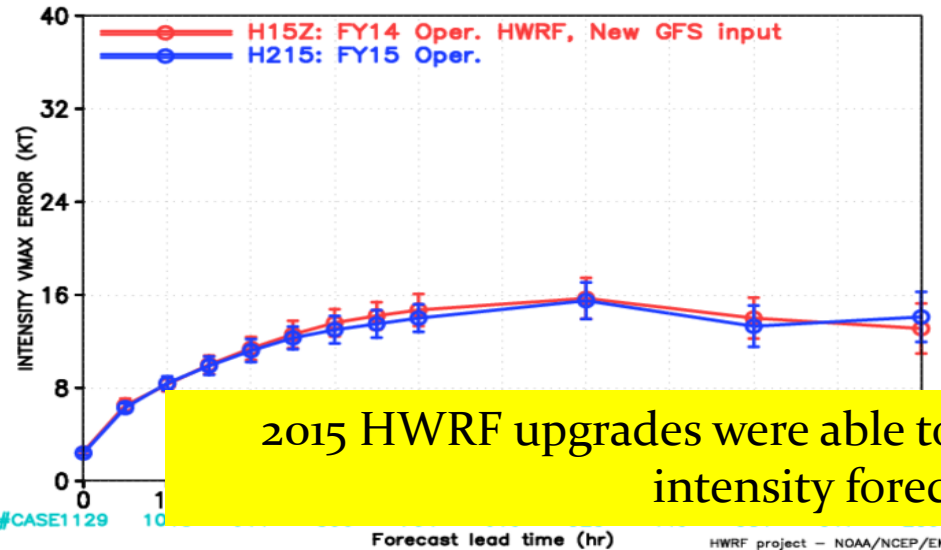
2015 HWRP upgrades were able to recover the loss of track forecast skill due to new GFS through 24 hrs, but remained largely negative 48 hrs and beyond



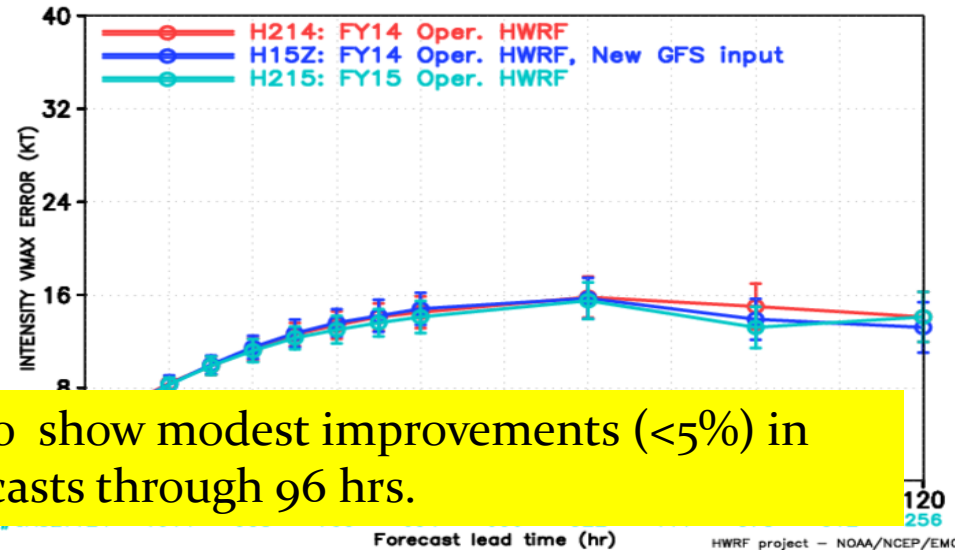
Impact of Physics, Resolution & New GFS, (H215 vs H15Z & H214)

EP Intensity Forecasts 2011-2014

HWRP FORECAST — INTENSITY VMAX ERROR (KT) STATISTICS
VERIFICATION FOR EPAC BASIN 2011–2014

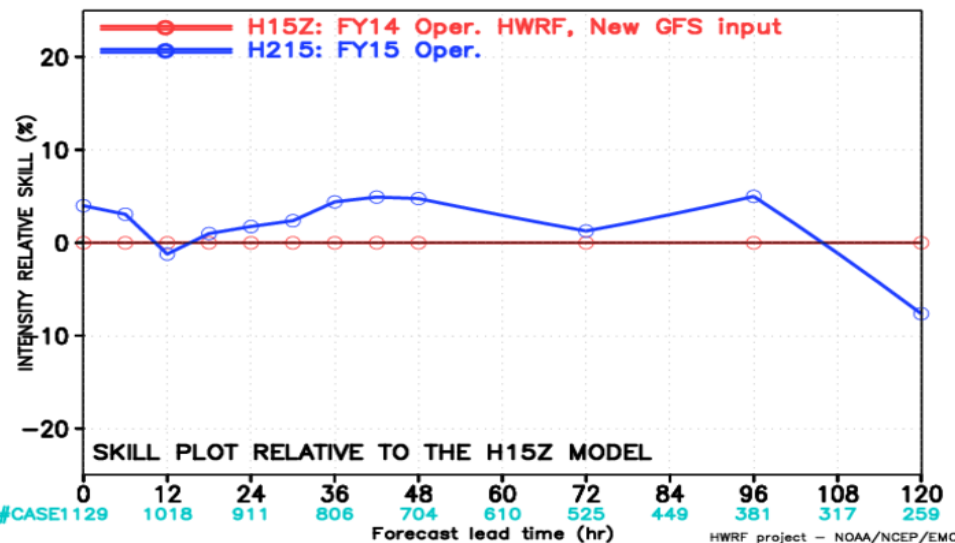


HWRP FORECAST — INTENSITY VMAX ERROR (KT) STATISTICS
VERIFICATION FOR EPAC BASIN 2011–2014

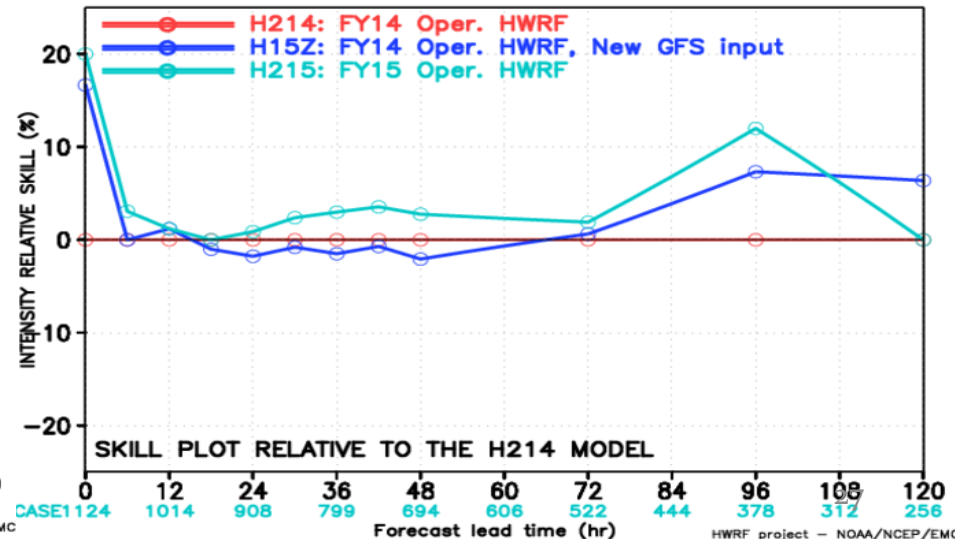


2015 HWRP upgrades were able to show modest improvements (<5%) in intensity forecasts through 96 hrs.

HWRP FORECAST — INTENSITY RELATIVE SKILL (%) STATISTICS
VERIFICATION FOR EPAC BASIN 2011–2014



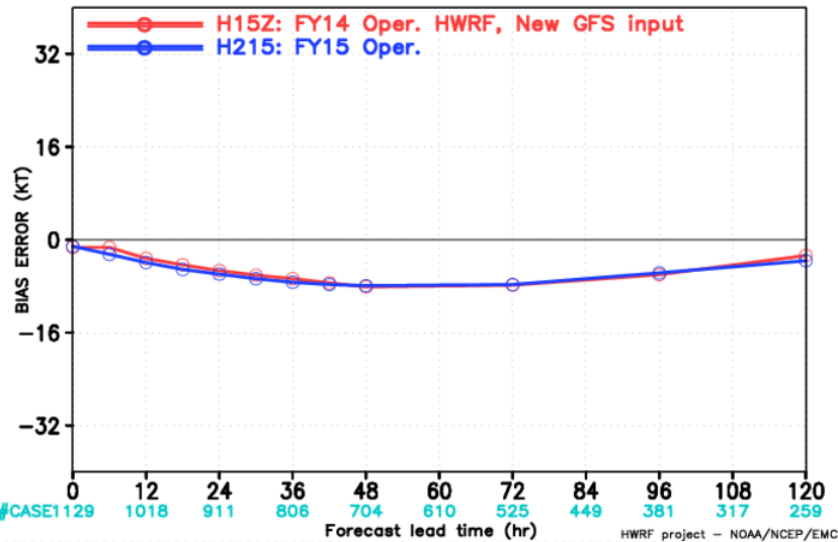
HWRP FORECAST — INTENSITY RELATIVE SKILL (%) STATISTICS
VERIFICATION FOR EPAC BASIN 2011–2014



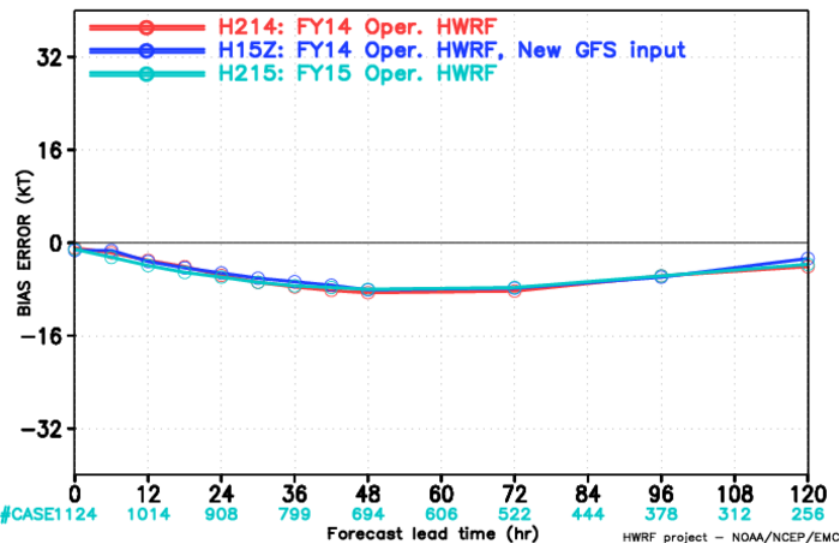
Impact of Physics, Resolution & New GFS, (H215 vs H15Z & H214)

EP Intensity Bias Forecasts 2011-2014

HWRP FORECAST – BIAS ERROR (KT) STATISTICS
VERIFICATION FOR EPAC BASIN 2011–2014

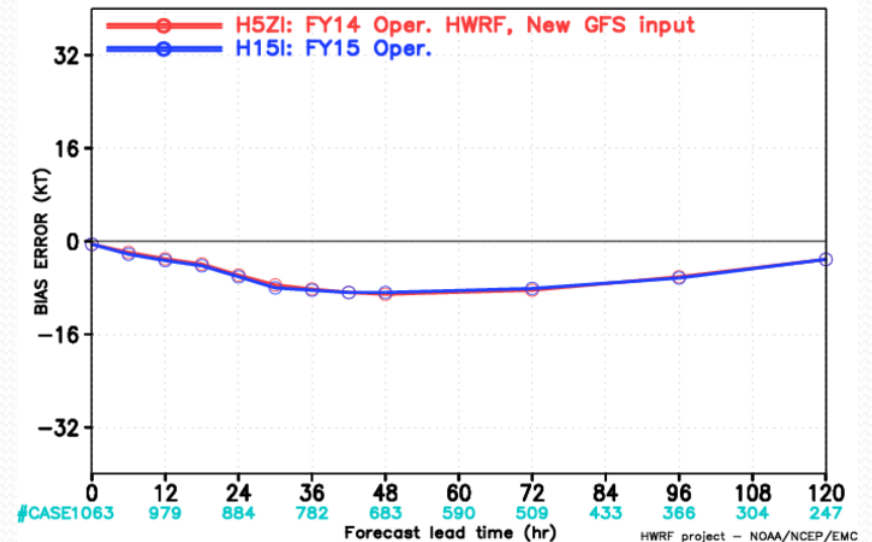


HWRP FORECAST – BIAS ERROR (KT) STATISTICS
VERIFICATION FOR EPAC BASIN 2011–2014



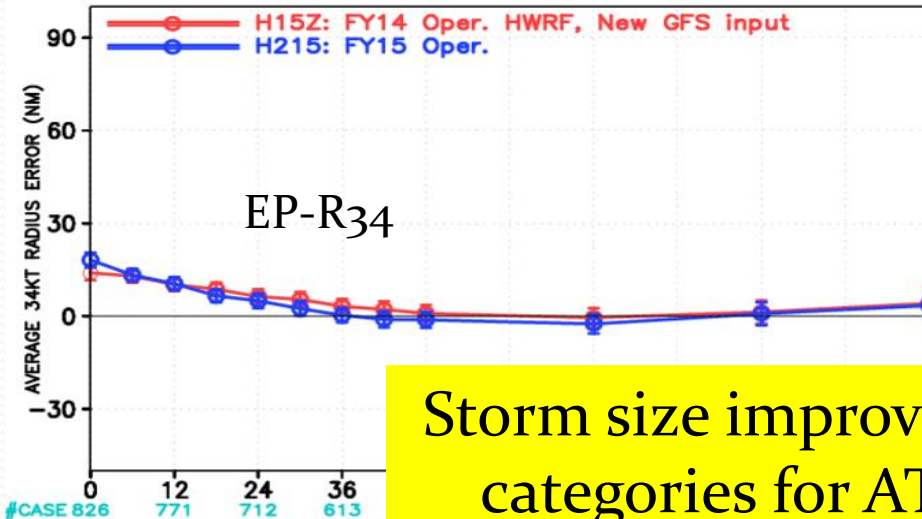
Intensity Forecast Bias remained the same (mostly negative) despite higher resolution and improved physics

HWRP FORECAST – BIAS ERROR (KT) STATISTICS
VERIFICATION FOR EPAC BASIN 2011–2014

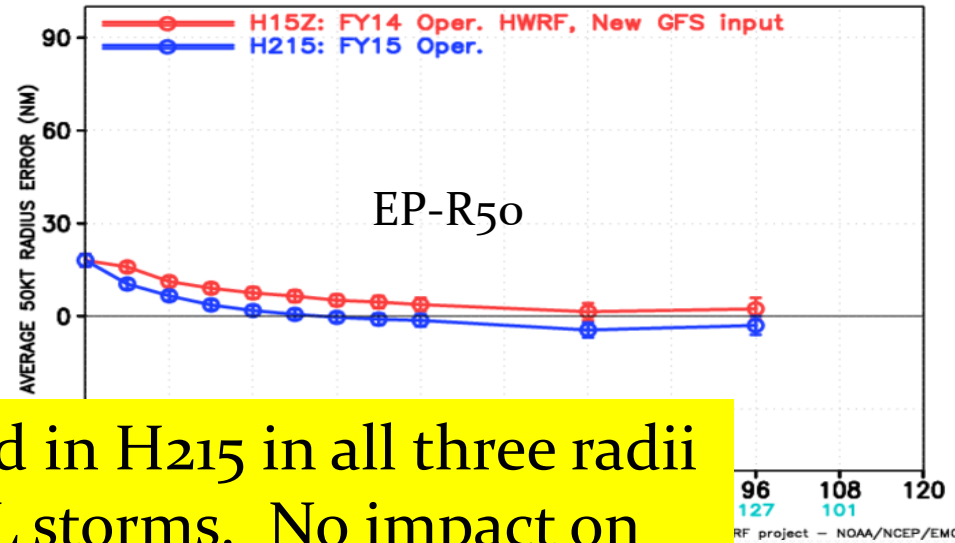


Storm Structure Verification for H215 vs H15Z, EP 2011-2014

HWRf FORECAST — AVERAGE 34KT RADIUS ERROR (NM) STATISTICS
VERIFICATION FOR EPAC BASIN 2011–2014

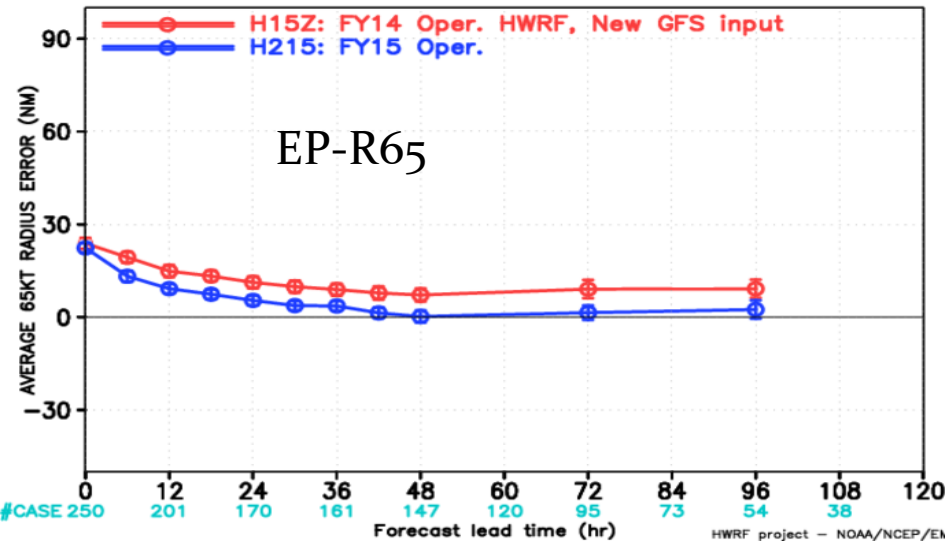


HWRf FORECAST — AVERAGE 50KT RADIUS ERROR (NM) STATISTICS
VERIFICATION FOR EPAC BASIN 2011–2014

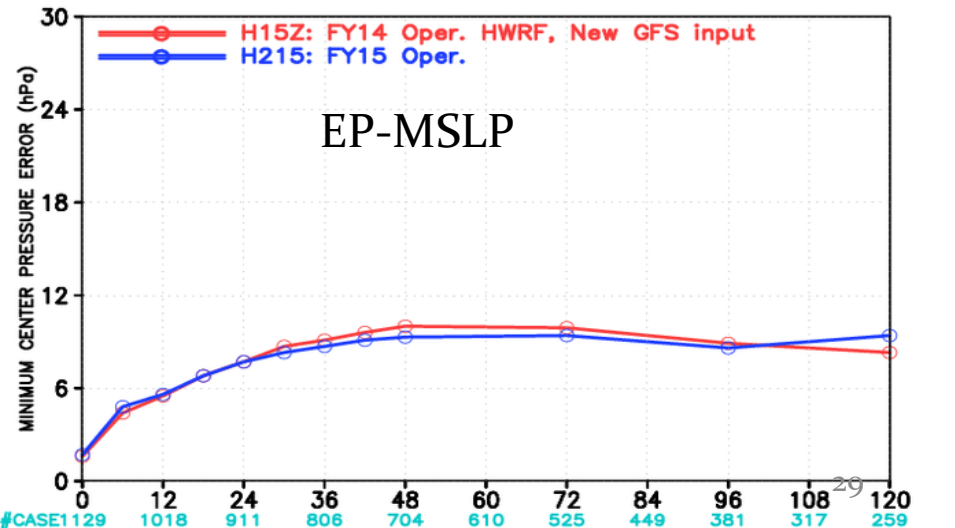


Storm size improved in H215 in all three radii categories for ATL storms. No impact on MSLP forecasts

HWRf FORECAST — AVERAGE 65KT RADIUS ERROR (NM) STATISTICS
VERIFICATION FOR EPAC BASIN 2011–2014

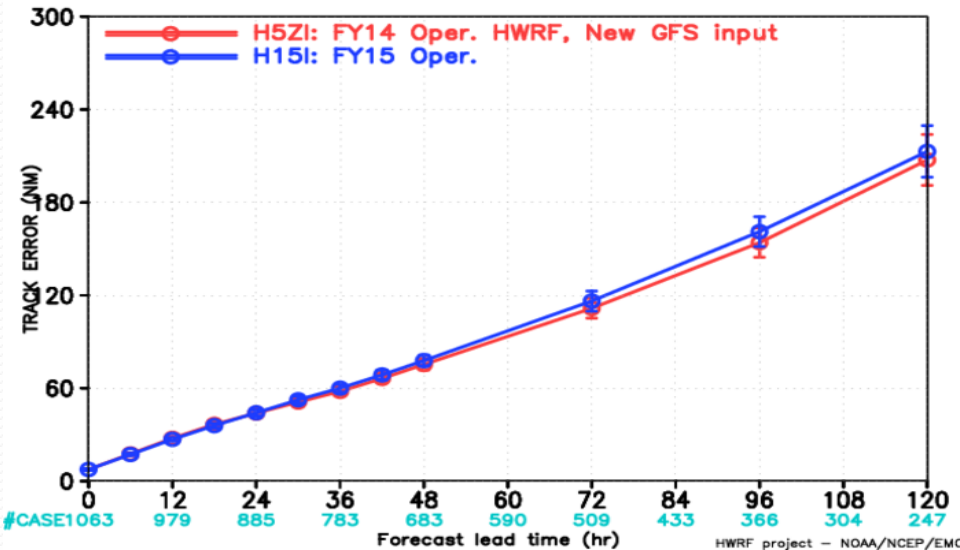


HWRf FORECAST — AVERAGE MINIMUM CENTER PRESSURE ERROR (hPa) STATISTICS
VERIFICATION FOR EPAC BASIN 2011–2014

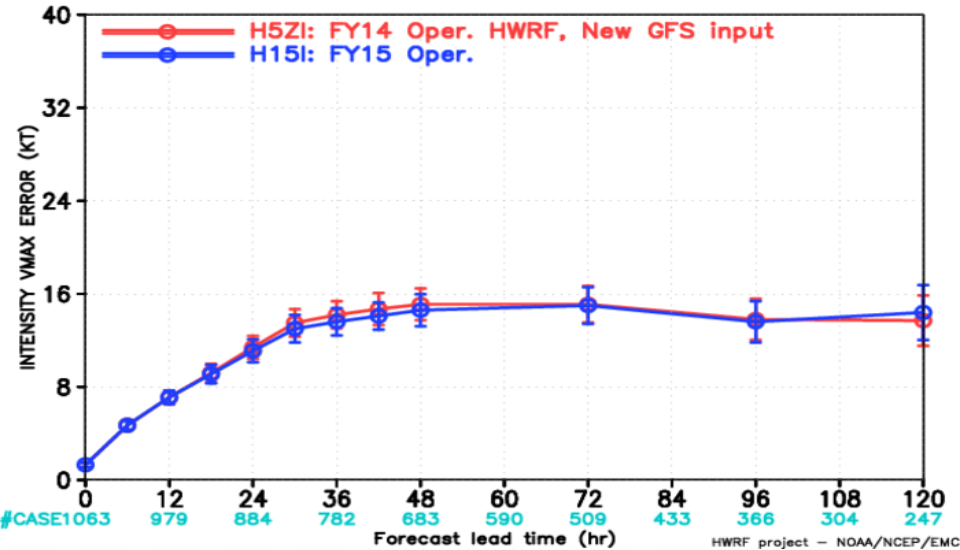


Verification of interpolated guidance, H15I vs. H5ZI, EP 2011-2014

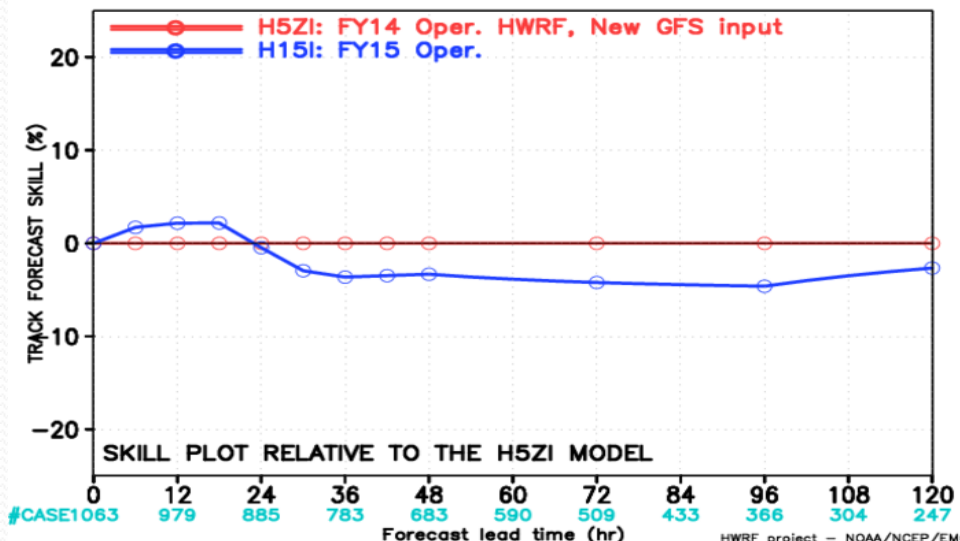
HWRP FORECAST – TRACK ERROR (NM) STATISTICS
VERIFICATION FOR EPAC BASIN 2011–2014



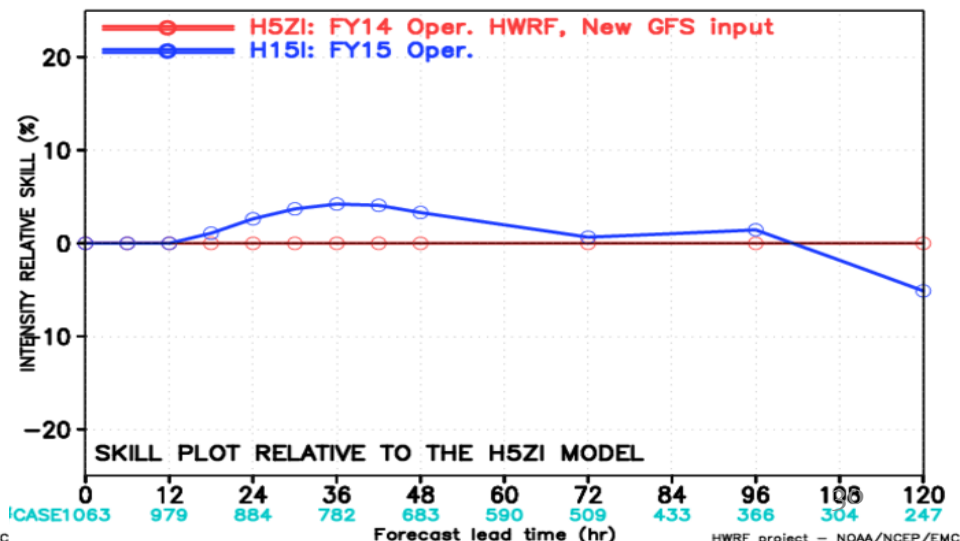
HWRP FORECAST – INTENSITY VMAX ERROR (KT) STATISTICS
VERIFICATION FOR EPAC BASIN 2011–2014



HWRP FORECAST – TRACK FORECAST SKILL (%) STATISTICS
VERIFICATION FOR EPAC BASIN 2011–2014



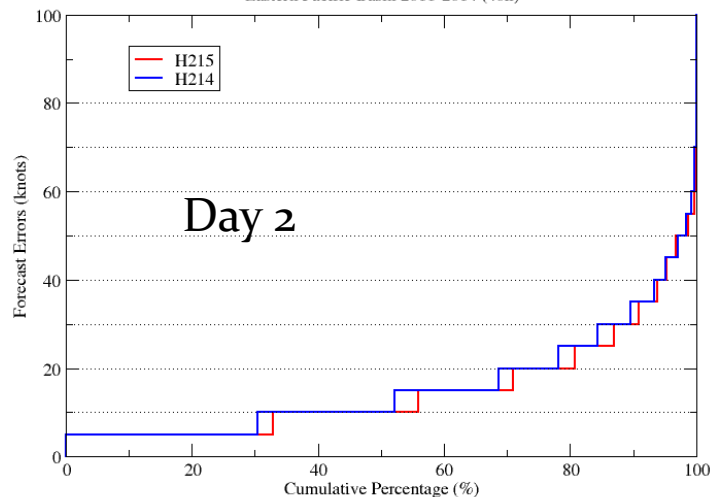
HWRP FORECAST – INTENSITY RELATIVE SKILL (%) STATISTICS
VERIFICATION FOR EPAC BASIN 2011–2014



Improvement of Intensity Errors from H215, EP 2011-2014

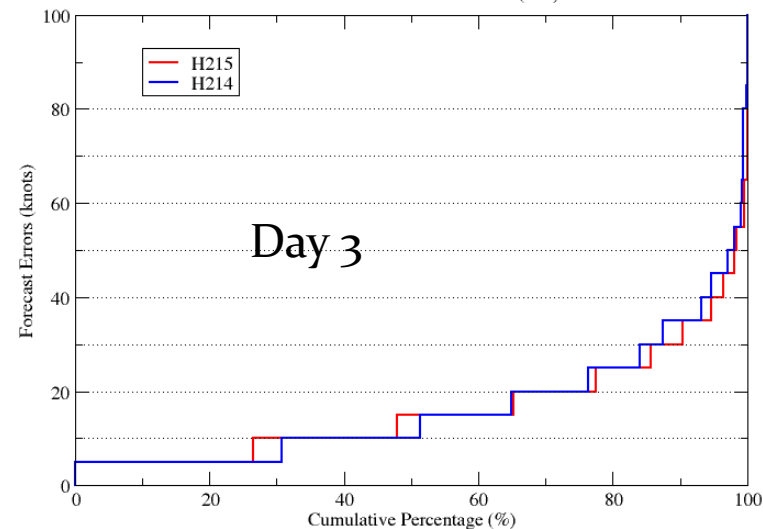
H215 vs H214 Intensity Error Cumulative Distribution

Eastern Pacific Basin 2011-2014 (48h)



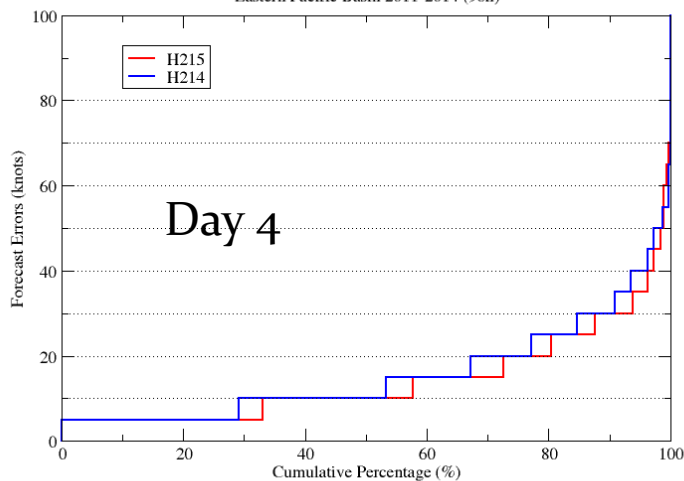
H215 vs H214 Intensity Error Cumulative Distribution

Eastern Pacific Basin 2011-2014 (72h)



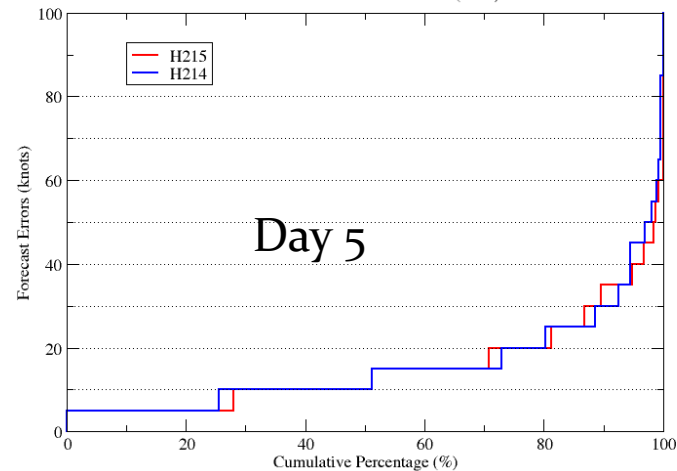
H215 vs H214 Intensity Error Cumulative Distribution

Eastern Pacific Basin 2011-2014 (96h)



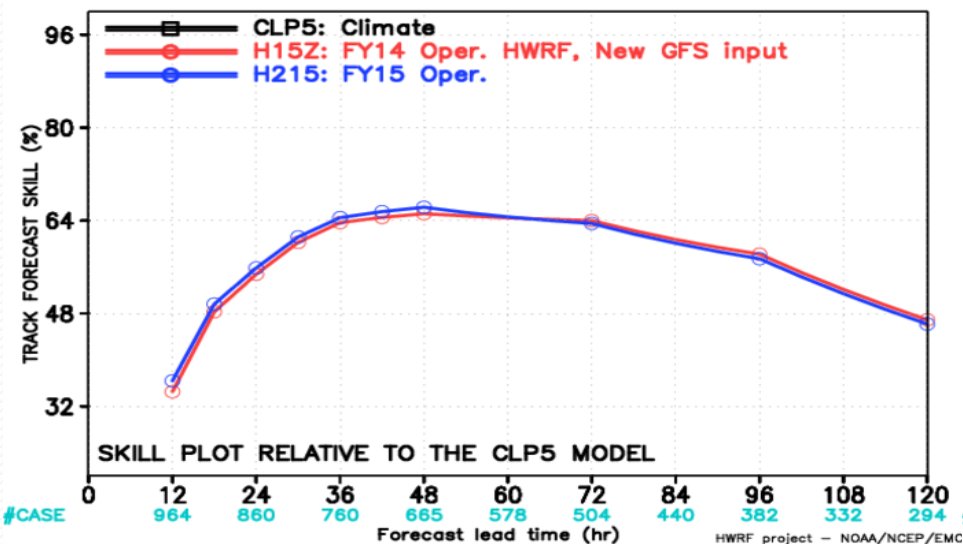
H215 vs H214 Intensity Error Cumulative Distribution

Eastern Pacific Basin 2011-2014 (120h)

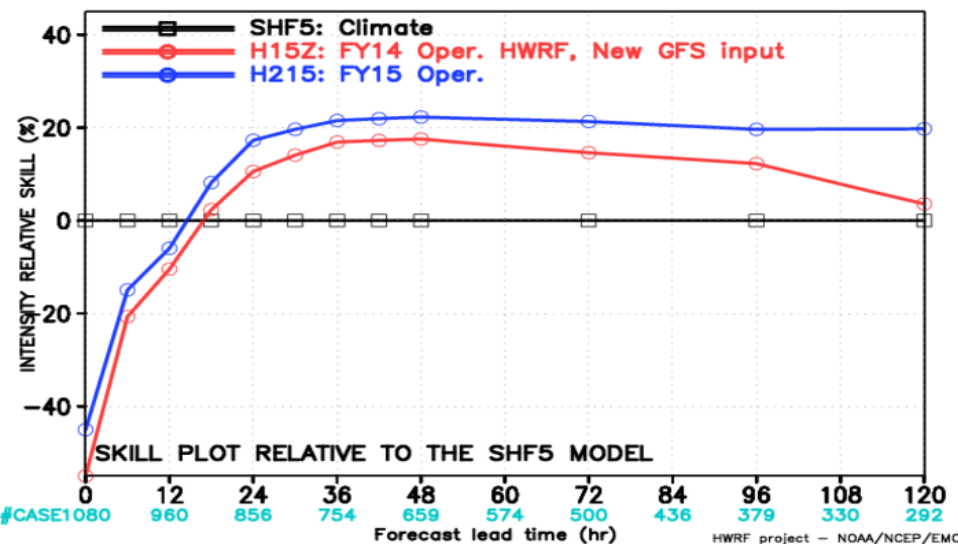


Verifications in Skill Space, H215 vs. H15Z, NATL/EP, 2011-2014

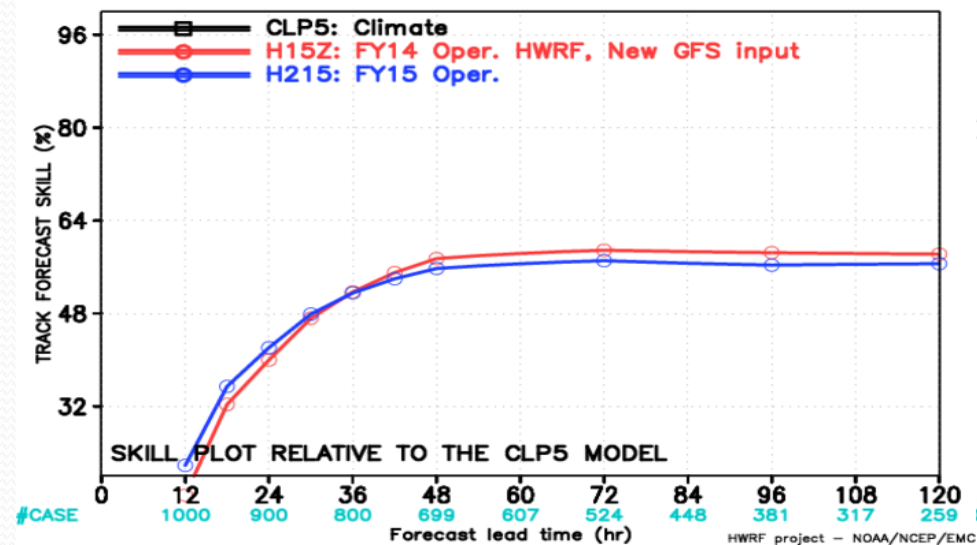
HWRP FORECAST – TRACK FORECAST SKILL (%) STATISTICS
VERIFICATION FOR NATL BASIN 2011–2014



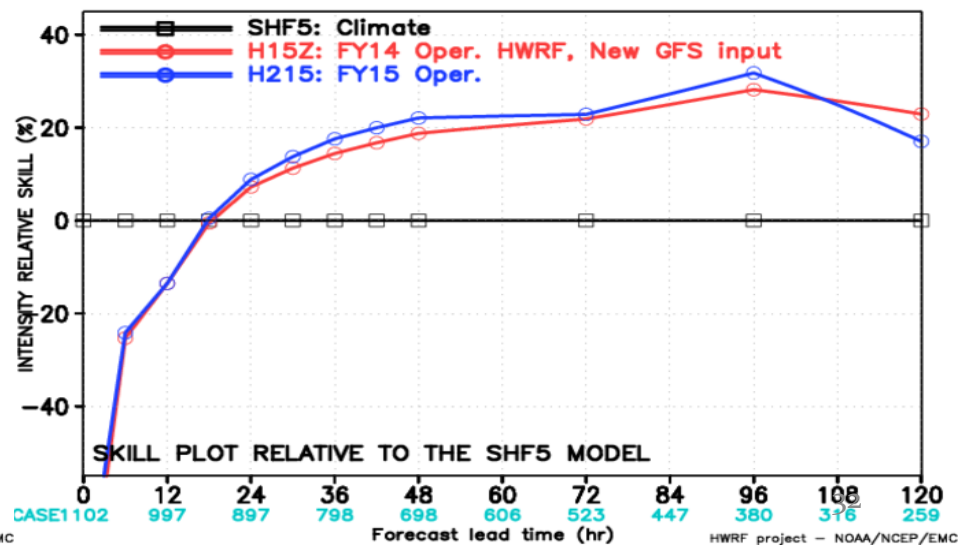
HWRP FORECAST – INTENSITY RELATIVE SKILL (%) STATISTICS
VERIFICATION FOR NATL BASIN 2011–2014



HWRP FORECAST – TRACK FORECAST SKILL (%) STATISTICS
VERIFICATION FOR EPAC BASIN 2011–2014

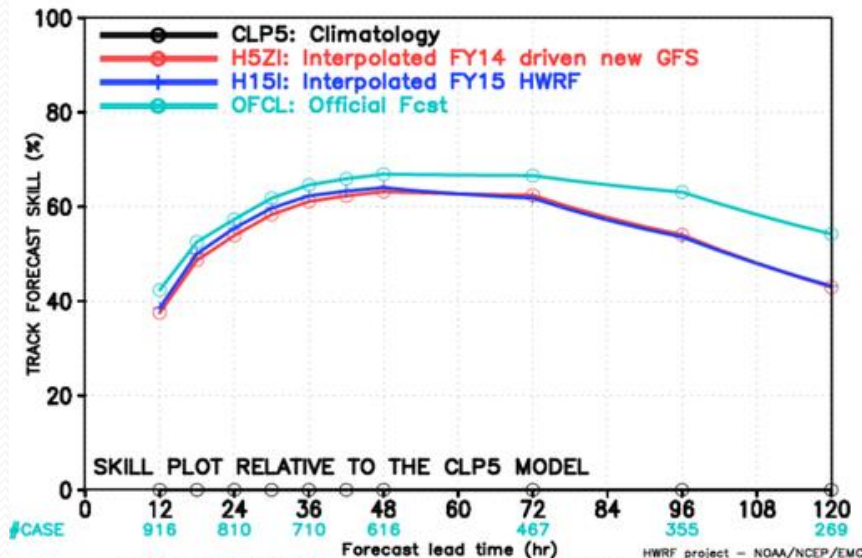


HWRP FORECAST – INTENSITY RELATIVE SKILL (%) STATISTICS
VERIFICATION FOR EPAC BASIN 2011–2014

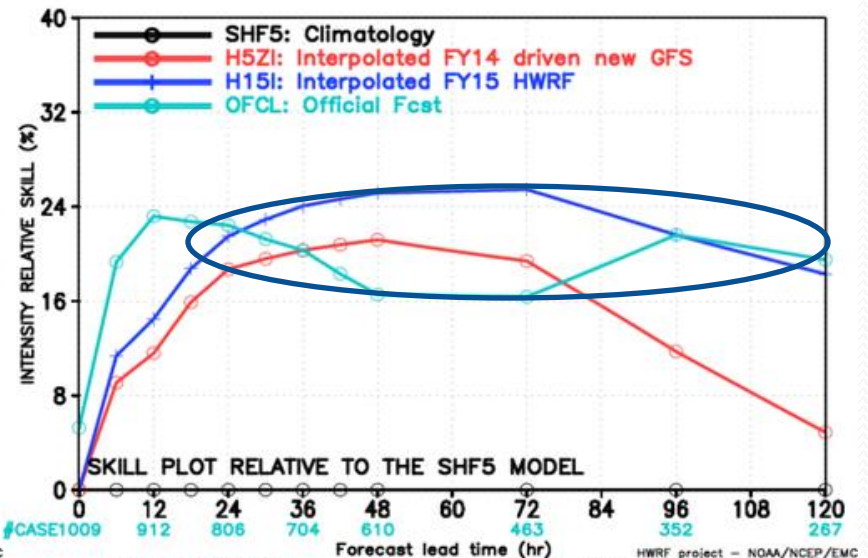


Early Model Verification in Skill Space, H215 vs. H15Z vs. OFCL, NATL/EP, 2011-2014

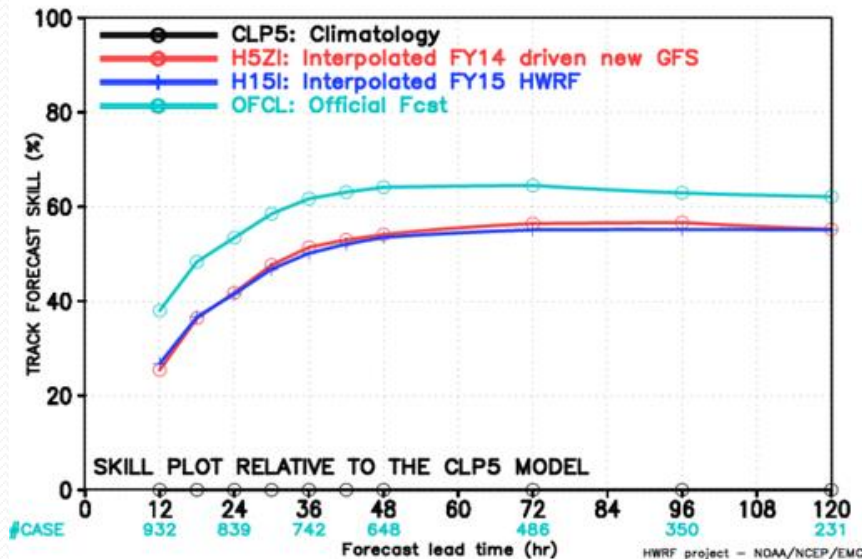
HWRP FORECAST – TRACK FORECAST SKILL (%) STATISTICS
VERIFICATION FOR NATL BASIN 2011–2014



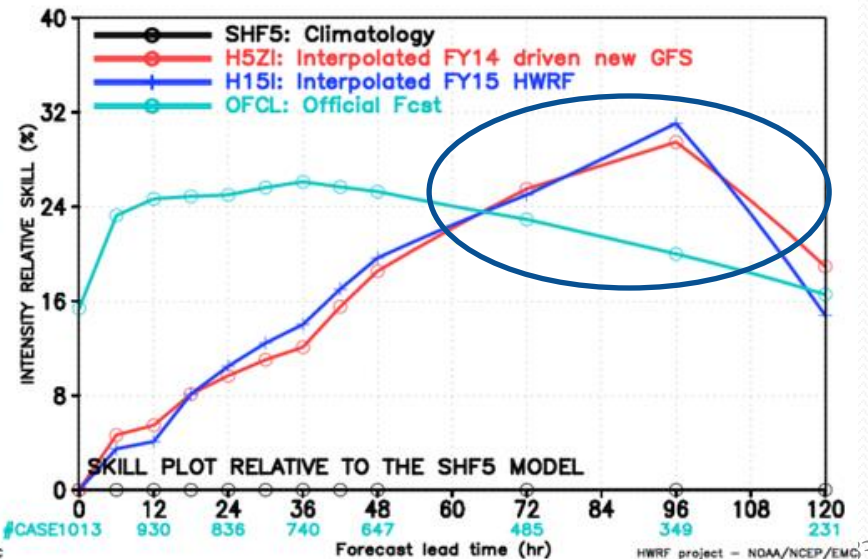
HWRP FORECAST – INTENSITY RELATIVE SKILL (%) STATISTICS
VERIFICATION FOR NATL BASIN 2011–2014



HWRP FORECAST – TRACK FORECAST SKILL (%) STATISTICS
VERIFICATION FOR EPAC BASIN 2011–2014

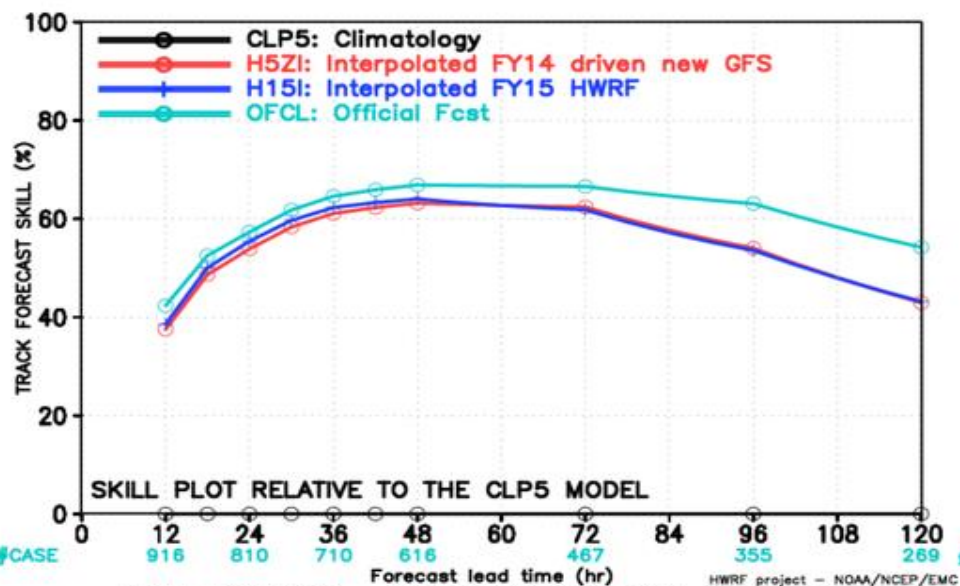


HWRP FORECAST – INTENSITY RELATIVE SKILL (%) STATISTICS
VERIFICATION FOR EPAC BASIN 2011–2014

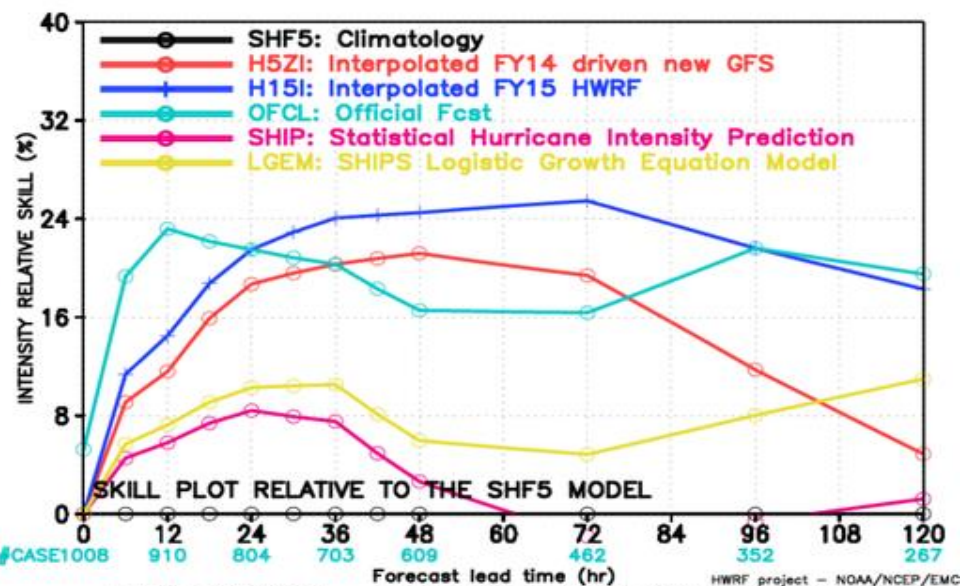


Early Model Verification in Skill Space, Comparison with statistical models

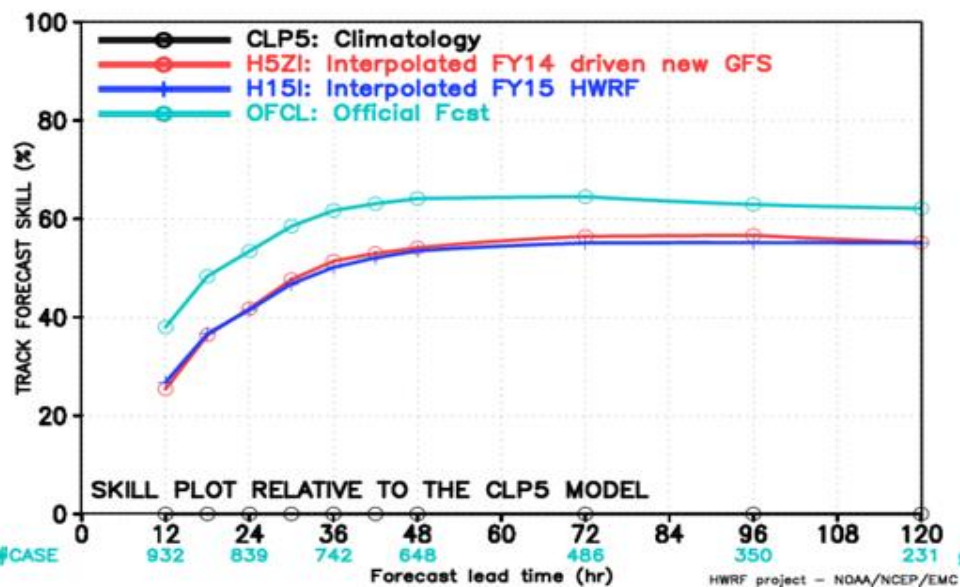
HWRF FORECAST – TRACK FORECAST SKILL (%) STATISTICS
VERIFICATION FOR NATL BASIN 2011–2014



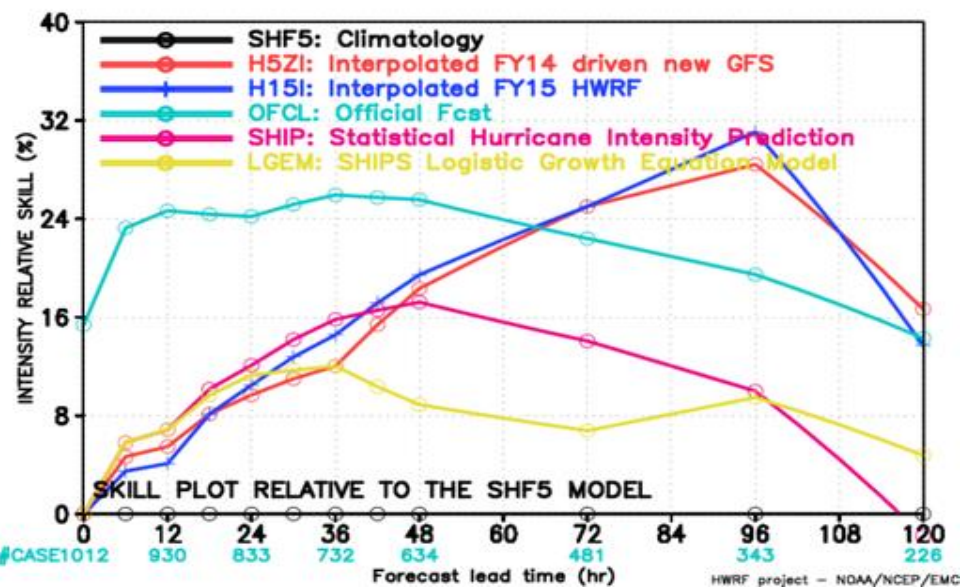
HWRF FORECAST – INTENSITY RELATIVE SKILL (%) STATISTICS
VERIFICATION FOR NATL BASIN 2011–2014



HWRF FORECAST – TRACK FORECAST SKILL (%) STATISTICS
VERIFICATION FOR EPAC BASIN 2011–2014

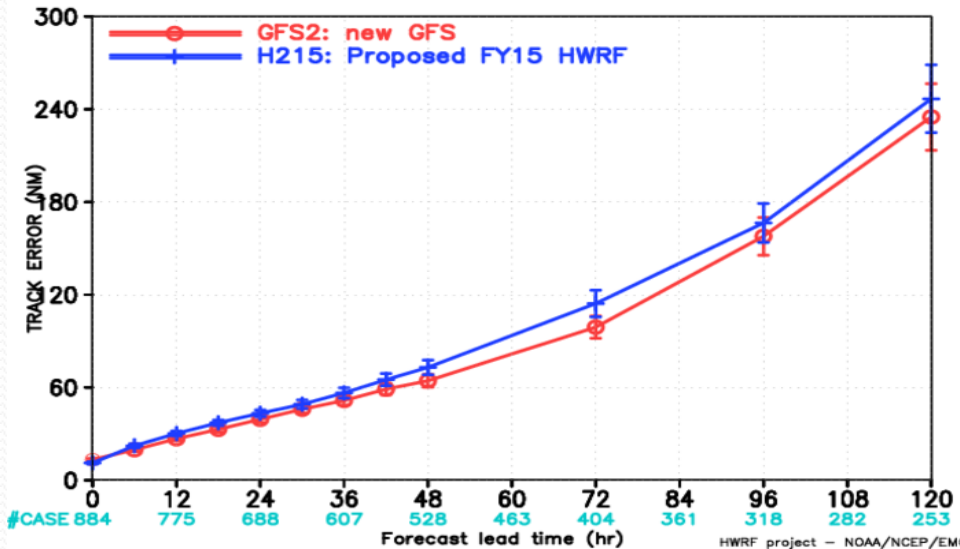


HWRF FORECAST – INTENSITY RELATIVE SKILL (%) STATISTICS
VERIFICATION FOR EPAC BASIN 2011–2014

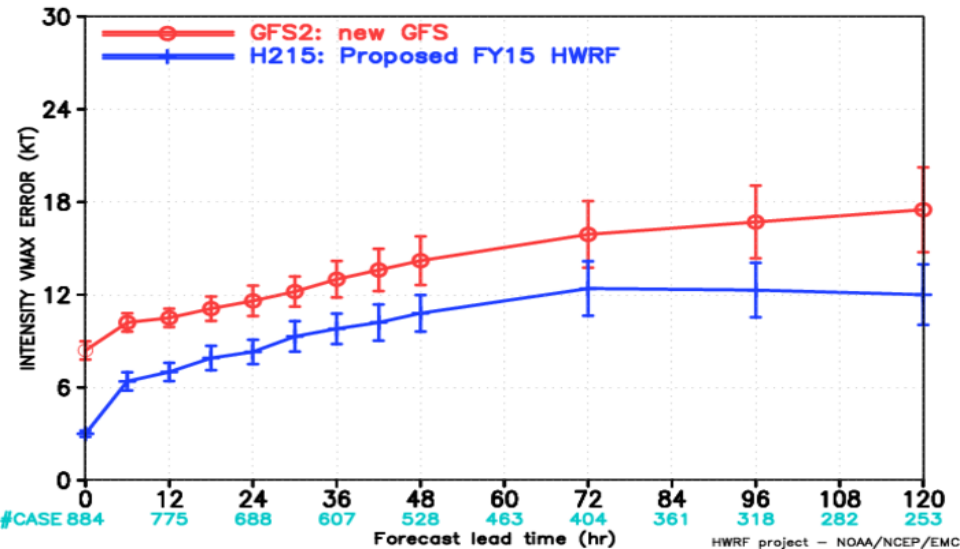


Verification Against new GFS, NATL/EP, 2011-2014

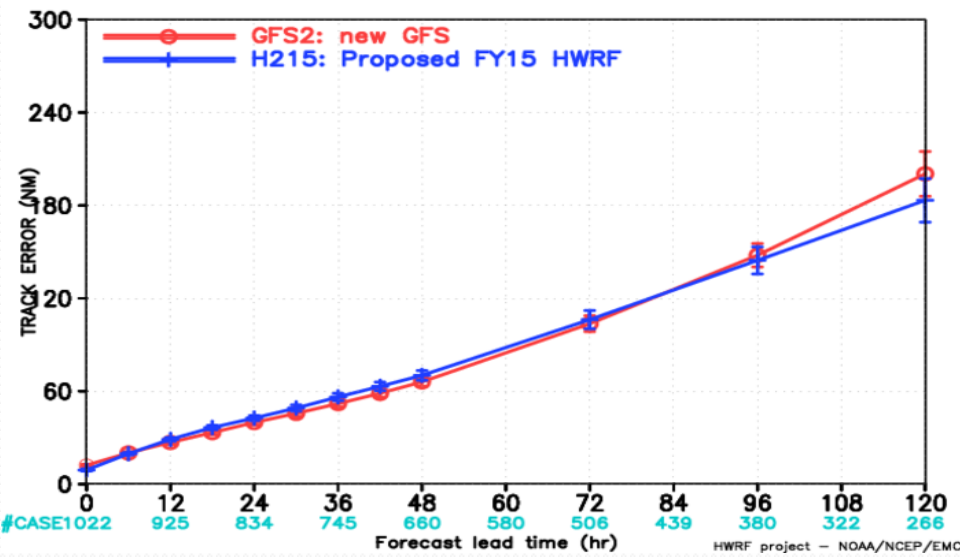
HWRP FORECAST — TRACK ERROR (NM) STATISTICS
VERIFICATION FOR NATL BASIN 2011–2014



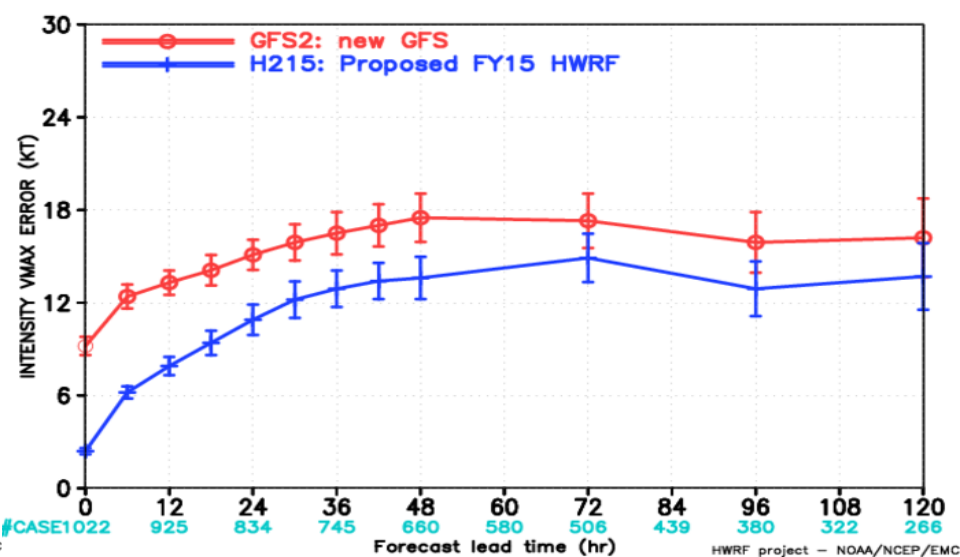
HWRP FORECAST — INTENSITY VMAX ERROR (KT) STATISTICS
VERIFICATION FOR NATL BASIN 2011–2014



HWRP FORECAST — TRACK ERROR (NM) STATISTICS
VERIFICATION FOR EPAC BASIN 2011–2014



HWRP FORECAST — INTENSITY VMAX ERROR (KT) STATISTICS
VERIFICATION FOR EPAC BASIN 2011–2014



Summary

- Further enhancements suggested for 2015 operational HWRF include:
 - Increase the horizontal resolution from 27/9/3 to 18/6/2 km.
 - Upgrade and improve HWRF vortex initialization scheme
 - Upgrade DA with hybrid HWRF-based EnKF and GSI system.
 - Upgrade model physics to accommodate model resolution increase, including micro-physics process, radiation, surface physics, land surface and PBL.
- H215 retrospective evaluation of 2011-2014 hurricane seasons (1147 verifiable cycles in NATL, 1129 in EP) demonstrated improved forecasts compared to both FY14 operational HWRF (H214) and FY14 driven by new GFS (H15Z), except for the track forecasts in the Eastern Pacific;
- Results from H215 for the Atlantic basin suggested additional 10-15% improvement possible from the newly upgraded model compared to H15Z, about 5-10% improvement compared to H214.
- Results from H215 for the Eastern Pacific basin suggested about 5% more track forecast errors compared to H15Z, however, H215 track forecasts are still comparable or better than the new GFS track forecasts. A modest (~5%) improvement in intensity forecasts is shown possible from 2015 HWRF upgrades .

Summary

- Evaluation metrics in the skill space confirmed the positive improvements from H215 compared to H15Z in both basins for intensity forecasts, and in the Atlantic for track forecasts.
- High-resolution ensemble based TDR DA paves way for the next generation vortex scale DA efforts supported by HFIP, while bringing immediate benefits in the operations.
- Centralized HWRF Development Process for both research and operations with community involvement is critical for making further enhancements.
- Full credits to the entire HWRF team for another successful execution of pre-implementation T&E for implementing improved HWRF model in operations.
- Looking forward to realize these improvements in real-time during the upcoming hurricane season, and help enhance the skills of official forecasts
- Seek more direct engagement of HFIP supported researchers for active participation in model evaluation, enhancements and future R2O.

NHC Evaluation and Recommendations

The National Hurricane Center (NHC) endorses your proposed implementation of the HWRF model for 2015. Included in this implementation are an increase in inner mesh horizontal resolution from 3 km to 2 km, a number of physics upgrades, and an improved initialization. Retrospective runs of this model for a very large number (on the order of 2000) of cases for the Atlantic and eastern North Pacific for 2011 through 2014 did yield some mixed results. *When comparing the proposed implementation with the alternative (2014 HWRF driven by the 2015 GFS), there was a positive impact on intensity forecasts at both short and long ranges for the Atlantic and short-range intensity forecast improvements, with neutral impact at long ranges, for the east Pacific. There were overall improvements in short-range track prediction, with slight degradations at longer ranges, in the Atlantic . There were slight improvements in short-range track forecasts, with some degradation at the longer ranges, in the east Pacific.* It should be noted that at least part of the track forecast degradations are resulting from the 2015 implementation of the GFS, as revealed by the reruns of the 2014 HWRF using the 2015 GFS. This HWRF implementation at least partly offsets the latter degradations, and *given the positive benefits for TC intensity prediction, it is approved by the NHC.*

Dr. Richard J. Pasch
Senior Hurricane Specialist ,
National Hurricane Center

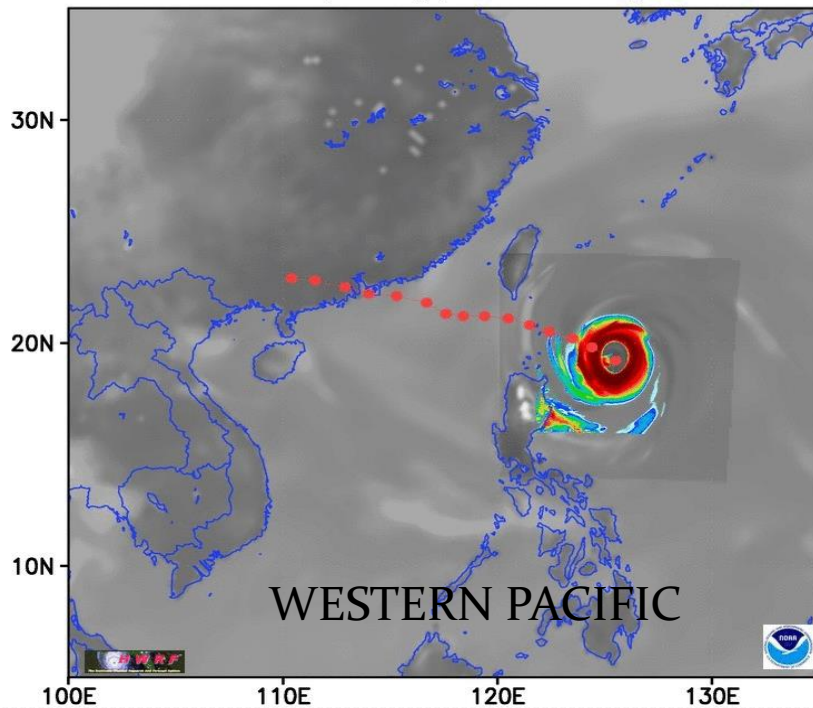
Expansion of Operational HWRF for all global tropical cyclones

- Current operational HWRF runs in the North Atlantic, Eastern North Pacific and Central North Pacific basins, for a maximum of 5-storms as requested by NHC
- Since 2012, with support from HFIP, HWRF is run experimentally in real-time using NOAA R&D resources on Jet supercomputers, providing reliable and skillful forecast guidance to JTWC for tropical cyclones in all other basins including Western North Pacific, Southern Pacific, South and North Indian Ocean.
- JTWC has included HWRF guidance in their operational consensus forecasts.
- NWS OAA and NCEP OD have expressed interest in expanding HWRF capabilities for WPAC/SH/IO basins starting in FY15.
- Frequency of occurrence of TCs in all global basins in the past 15 years suggested that with 7-storm capability, NCEP can achieve 99.5% reliability in delivering the tropical forecast guidance products to JTWC, CPHC, NWS PR and other US interests across the world.
- This marks a significant milestone accomplished for NCEP as a unique operational center for providing high-resolution tropical cyclone specific forecast guidance for the entire world.
- Starting with 2015 implementation, HWRF will become truly global specialized tropical cyclone model for all ocean basins.

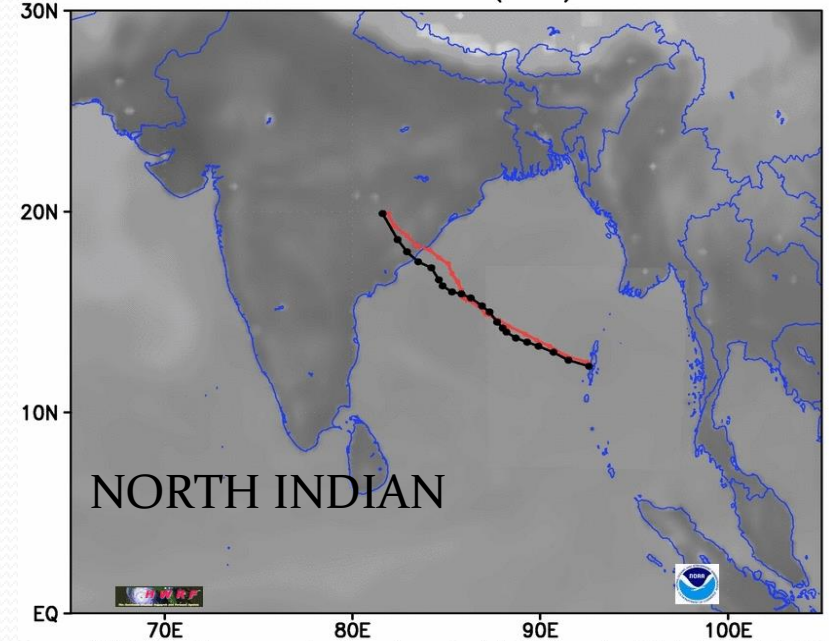
Examples of Real-Time Forecasts from 2014 HWRF

Advanced forecast products and high-definition graphics

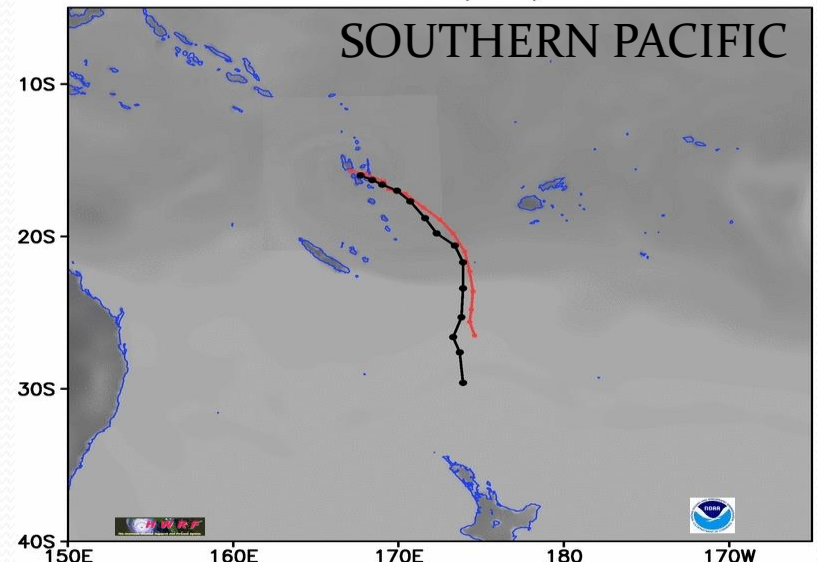
HWRF forecast for Super Typhoon Usagi at 2013092000



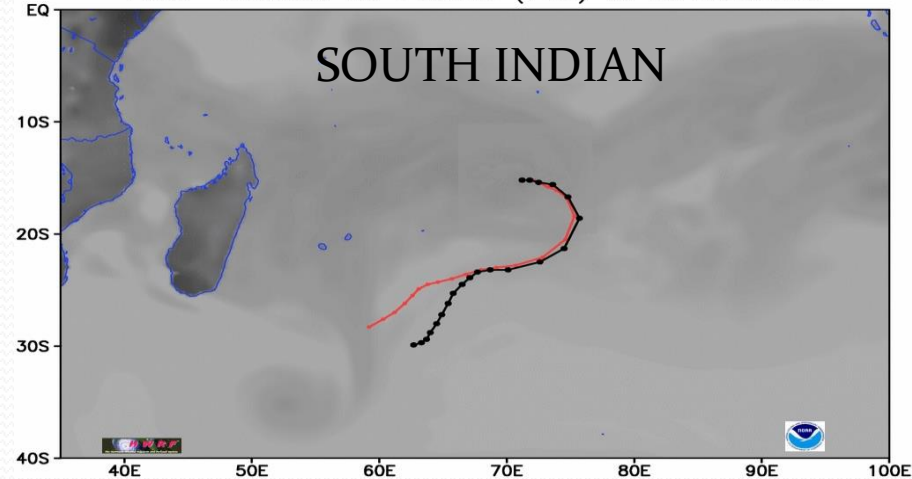
HWRF forecast for Hudhud (03B) at 2014100800



HWRF forecast for Lusi (18P) at 2014031100



HWRF forecast for Fobane (14S) at 2014020812



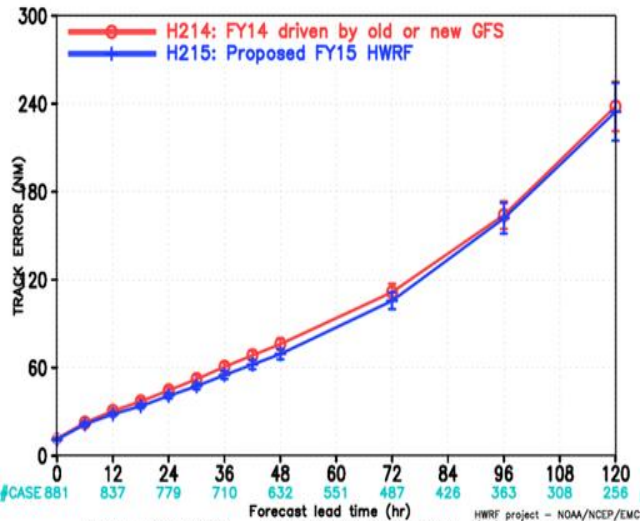


Verification for Western North Pacific, Southern Hemisphere and North Indian Ocean Storms (2013-2015)

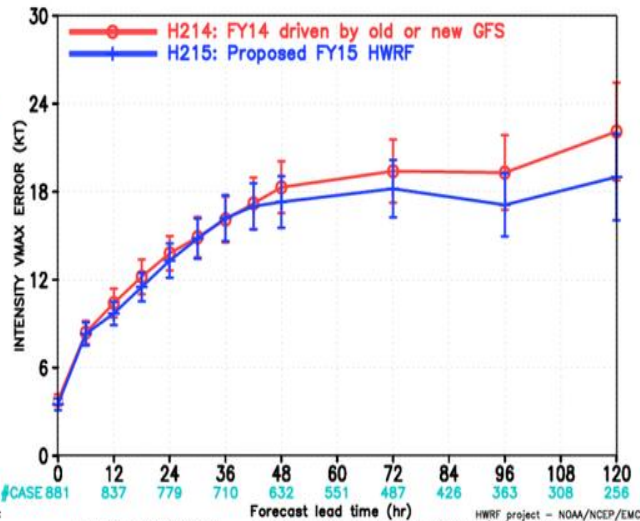
Evaluation of 2km HWRF Performance for Western North Pacific Basin

H215 vs H214, 2013-2014

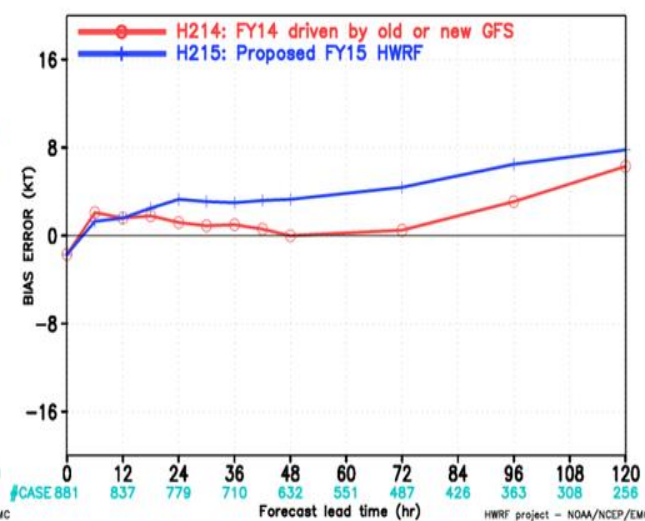
HWRF FORECAST – TRACK ERROR (NM) STATISTICS
VERIFICATION FOR WPAC BASIN 2013–2014



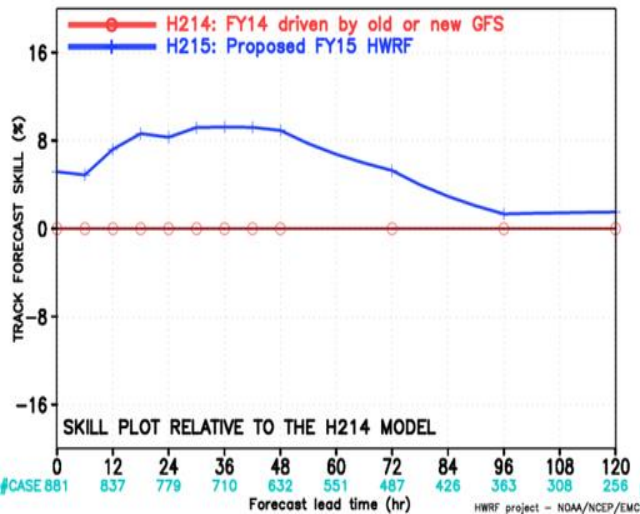
HWRF FORECAST – INTENSITY VMAX ERROR (KT) STATISTICS
VERIFICATION FOR WPAC BASIN 2013–2014



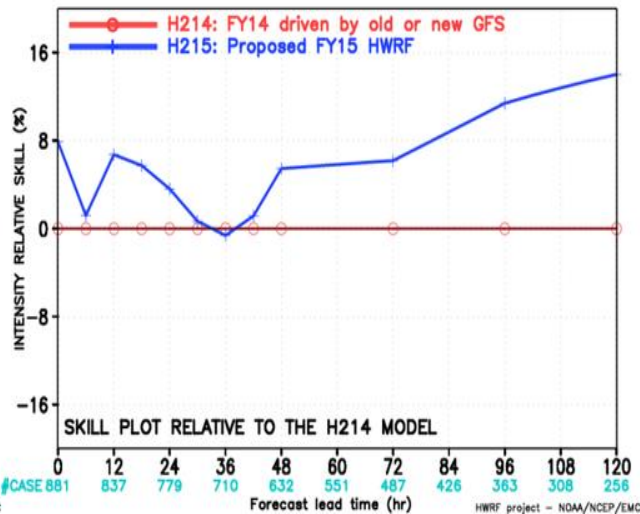
HWRF FORECAST – BIAS ERROR (KT) STATISTICS
VERIFICATION FOR WPAC BASIN 2013–2014



HWRF FORECAST – TRACK FORECAST SKILL (%) STATISTICS
VERIFICATION FOR WPAC BASIN 2013–2014



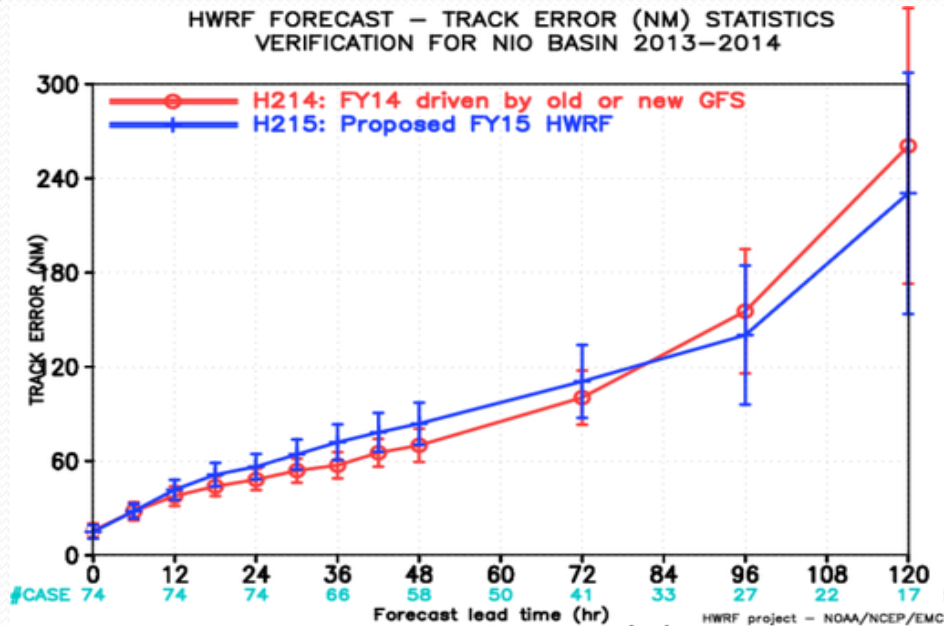
HWRF FORECAST – INTENSITY RELATIVE SKILL (%) STATISTICS
VERIFICATION FOR WPAC BASIN 2013–2014



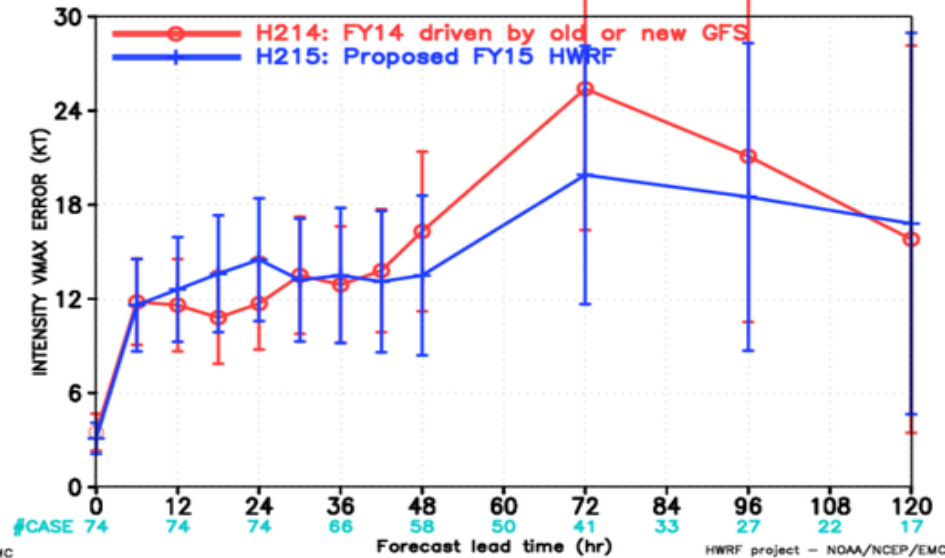
About 8% improvement
in track forecasts
through 72 hrs
~5-15% improvement
intensity forecasts,
(much improved
intensity forecasts at
longer lead times))

Evaluation of 2km HWRF Performance for North Indian Ocean H215 vs H214, 2013-2014

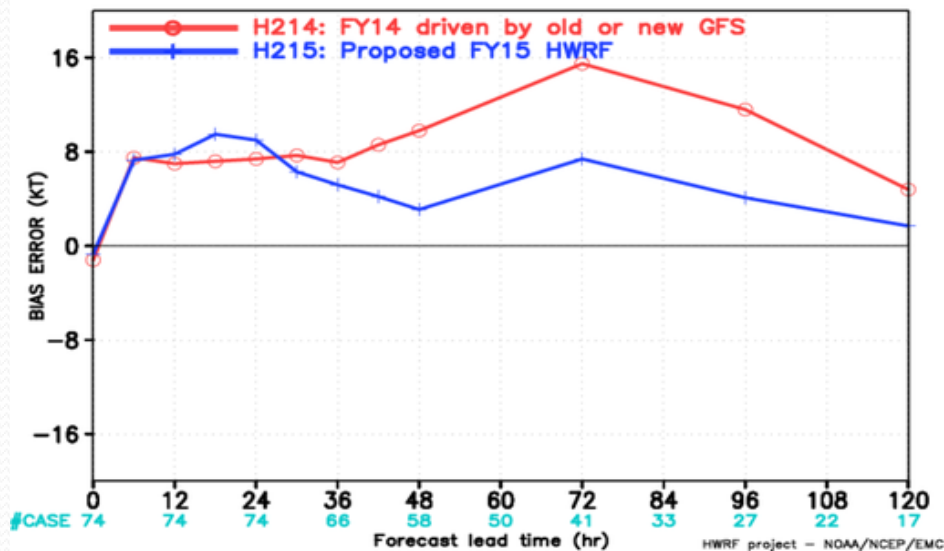
HWRF FORECAST — TRACK ERROR (NM) STATISTICS
VERIFICATION FOR NIO BASIN 2013–2014



HWRF FORECAST — INTENSITY VMAX ERROR (KT) STATISTICS
VERIFICATION FOR NIO BASIN 2013–2014



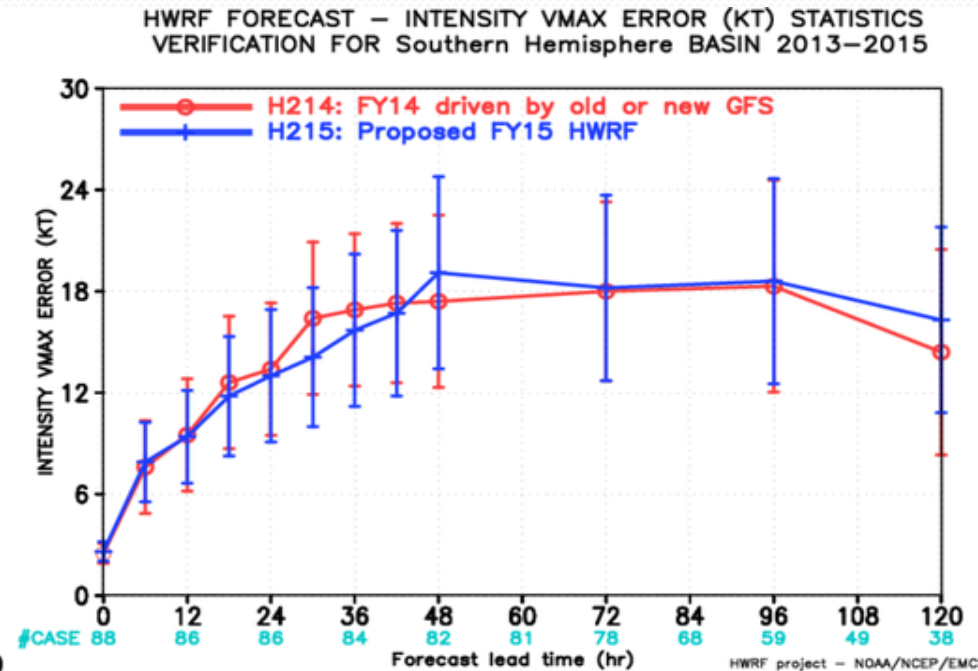
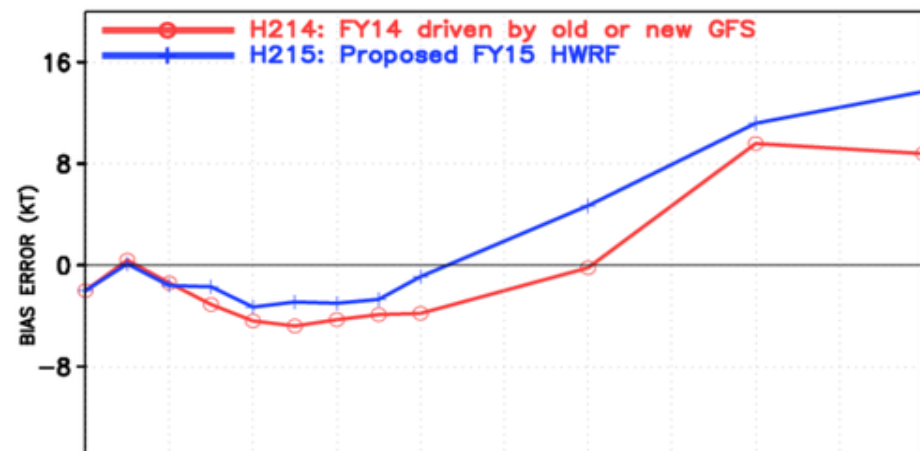
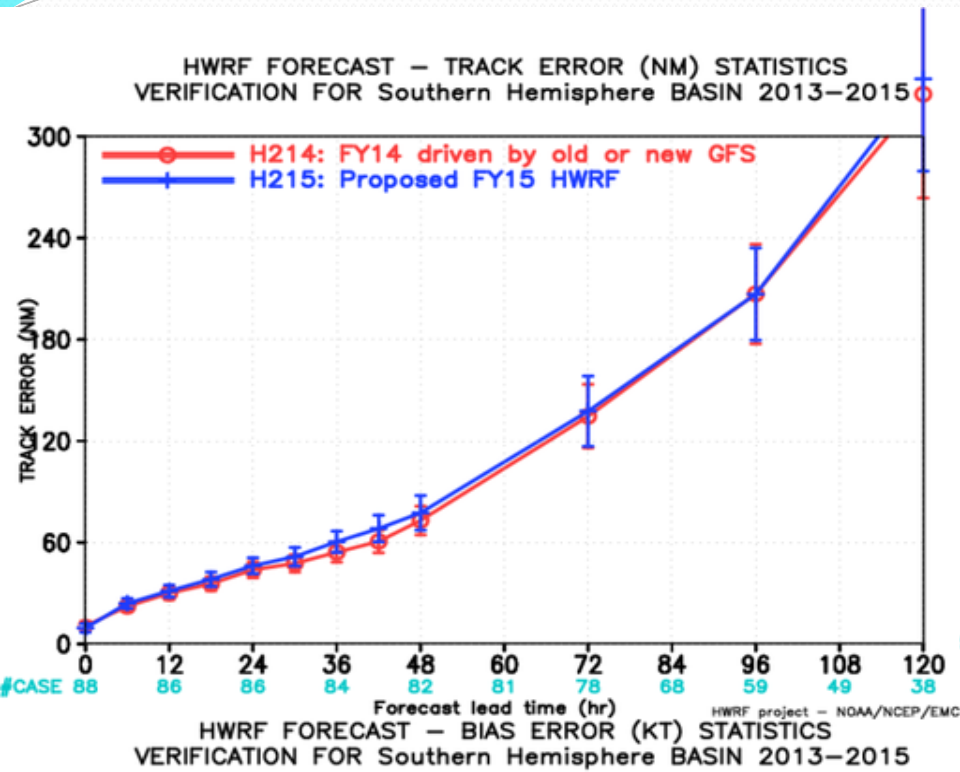
HWRF FORECAST — BIAS ERROR (KT) STATISTICS
VERIFICATION FOR NIO BASIN 2013–2014



Further improvements in track and intensity forecasts for the North Indian Ocean basin, with reduced positive intensity bias

Evaluation of 2km HWRF Performance for North Indian Ocean

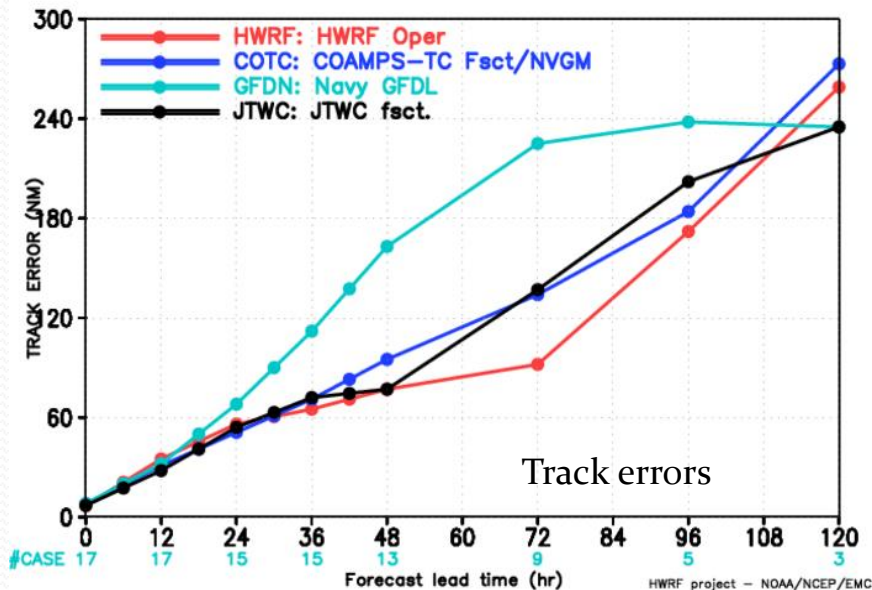
H215 vs H214, 2013-2015



Neutral impact for the Southern Hemisphere (much less sample size due to non-availability of GFS data)

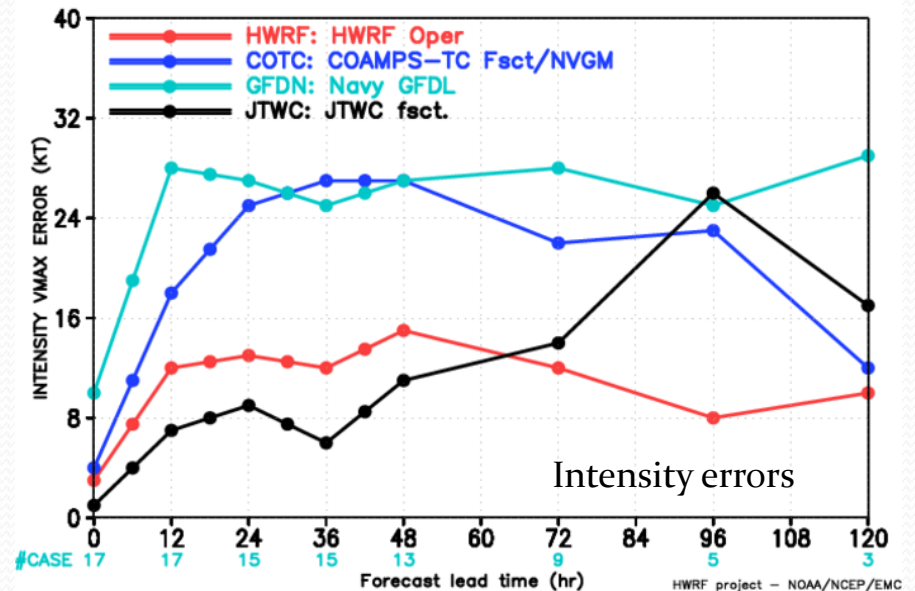
Track & Intensity Forecast Verification for Tropical Cyclone PAM 2015

HWRF FORECAST – TRACK ERROR (NM) STATISTICS
STATISTICS FOR A SINGLE CASE – sh172015_PAM



HWRF track forecasts have the lowest errors compared to any other models, and better than JTWC Forecasts after day 2.

HWRF FORECAST – INTENSITY VMAX ERROR (KT) STATISTICS
STATISTICS FOR A SINGLE CASE – sh172015_PAM



The intensity forecasts errors from HWRF are lowest compared to any other model, and are better than JTWC Forecasts at longer lead times

Endorsement from NWS PR and JTWC

"NWS PR endorse the operational implementation of HWRF for the additional basins"

---- *Ray Tanabe, Acting Director, NWS PR*

"JTWC fully and wholeheartedly supports and appreciates the running of global H-WRF in production at NCEP. This will help ensure all United States interests receive tropical cyclone forecasts based on all available numerical model guidance"

--- *Robert Falvey, Director, JTWC*

What it takes in operations to run 2015 HWRF

- **Resource requirements:**
 - **~2.5x compute cores (increase from 208 to 528) – 22 nodes per storm on phase II WCOSS**
 - ~7 minutes additional run-time (increase from 88 to about 95 minutes)
 - Delivery time will move from $t+5.58$ to $\sim t+6:00$ for each synoptic cycle (about 2 minute max delay)
- **Process optimization:**
 - Process and job unification using python based scripts
- Run maximum seven storms simultaneously

Computer Resource Requirement for HWRF-ensemble Based Data Assimilation HWRF V9.0.0, Q3FY15

J-job name	Job Description	Current Resource requirement (w/ T1534 GFS)	New Resource requirement (estimate)
JHWRF_ENSEMBLE	HWRF Ensemble 6h forecast from Global EnKF analysis. 40-member 2-nest domain(18/6)	N/A 2 nodes each for 40 independent jobs for 30 min. 10 simultaneous ensemble runs will take 2 hrs to complete all 40 members	Can start at T+7:02 to be completed by T+9:30

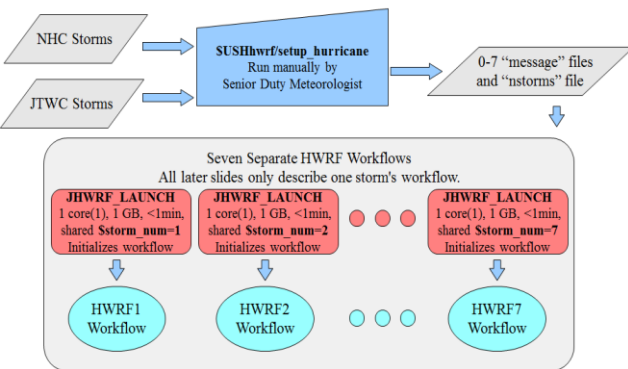
IT Testing

HWRF V9.0.0 (FY15 HWRF) is built in the same vertical structure of HWRFV8.0.11 (FY14 HWRF) implemented on WCOSS.

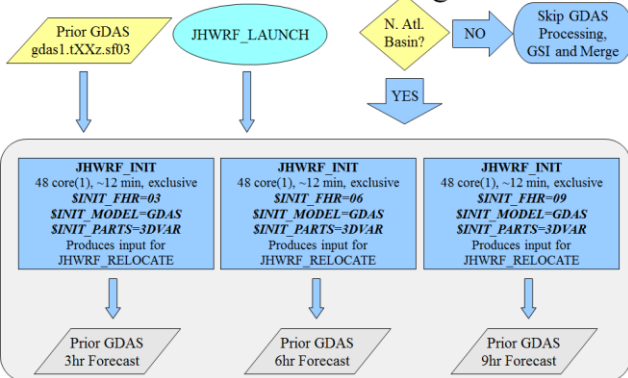
Note: Bugzilla entries are resolved and will be closed.

Test Objective	Comment
Missing GDAS EnKF members (total 80 mem)	if Nmissing >= 40, hybrid EnKF/GSI else conventional GSI
TDR (Tailed Doppler Radar) test	GSI will be done w/wo TDR for D03
Missing ICs from GDAS data	HWRF fails with proper error message
Missing BCs from GFS data	HWRF fails with proper error message
Missing previous cycle's 6-hr forecast output	HWRF runs to completion in cold start mode
Zero length data files for GSI	Initialization and analysis runs to completion
Missing input data files for GSI	Initialization and analysis runs to completion
Missing loop current for ocean initialization	POM runs to completion using climatology
Failed ocean initialization	HWRF runs in un-coupled mode
Tracker fails to identify initial storm location	Swath generator fails with proper error message
Test at least one storm in each basin	HWRF runs to completion
Cross dateline and Greenwich test	Make sure HWRF model and scripts properly handle the specially situations.
Bugzilla Entries	Test and confirm fixing the past issues

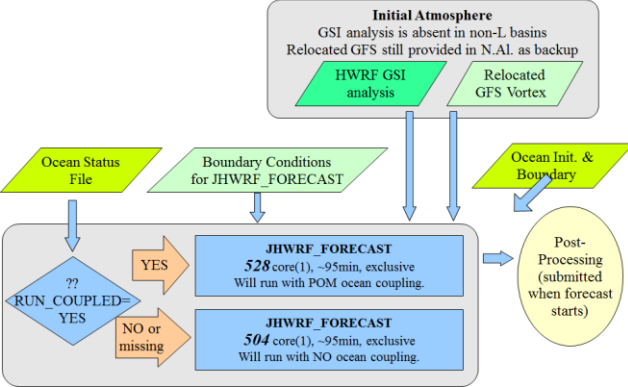
Operational HWRF Setup and Launch



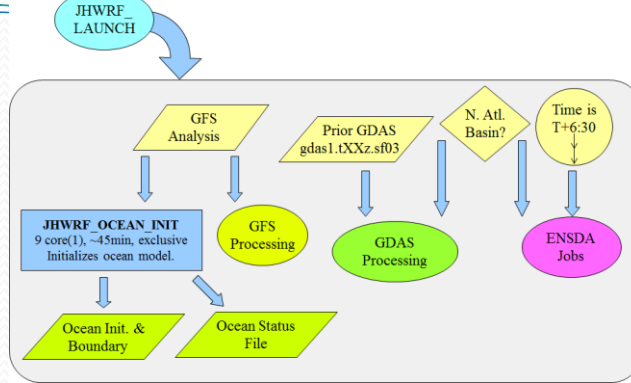
Operational HWRF GDAS Processing



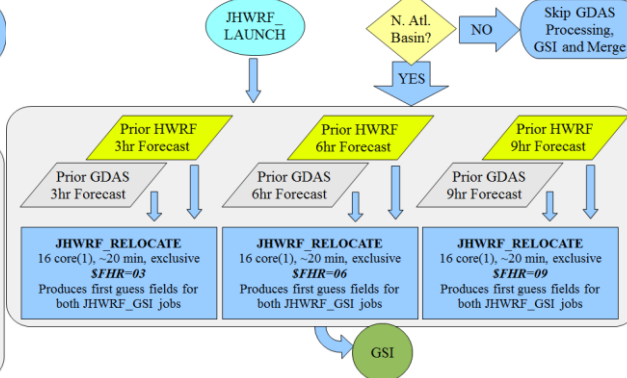
Operational HWRF Forecast



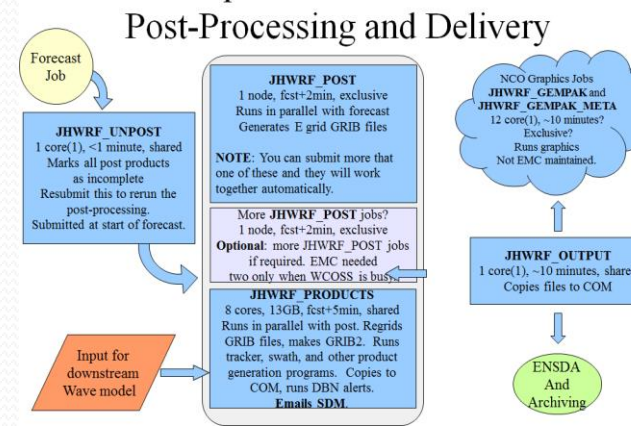
Operational HWRF Initialization



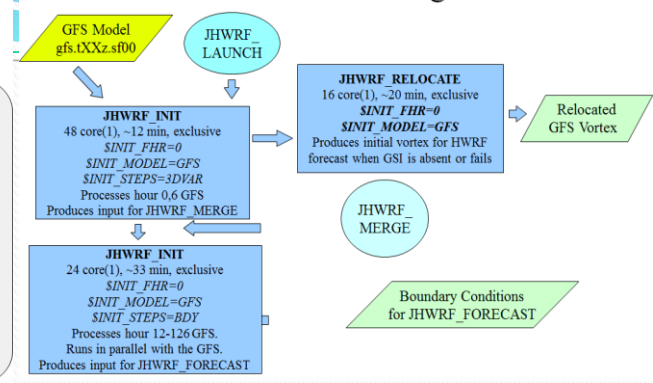
Operational HWRF GDAS Relocation



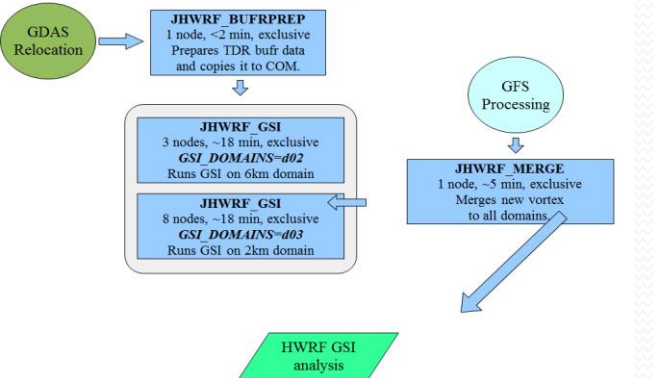
Operational HWRF Post-Processing and Delivery



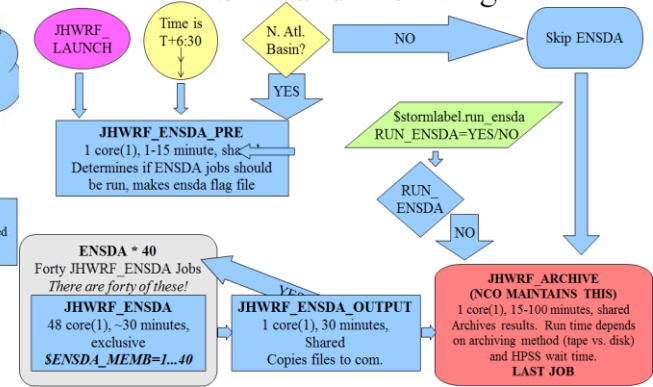
Operational HWRF GFS Processing



Operational HWRF GSI



Operational HWRF ENSDA and Archiving



Code Hand-Off and Release Notes

- Release Notes (includes dependencies for GFDL Ocean); HWRF/GFDL setup; triggering for HWRF ensembles
- IT Testing
- Implementation Instructions
- Workflow Diagram

<https://drive.google.com/drive/#folders/oBzWMD15ttvS1fm9aSTIya09GU3BmVnpDRjFLUWtoamZVcGNUYkttWFoyOU11T3AyRWRTVWs>

SVN Tag for HWRFV9.0.0 (entire system):

<https://svnemc.ncep.noaa.gov/projects/hwrf/branches/hwrf.v9.0.0>

New triggering mechanism for SDM to setup hurricane models; and for HWRF to run 40-member ensembles

Prioritization and selection of storms to run for HWRF and GFDL: (automated with default values, gives the flexibility for SDM to make changes through interactive process)

Cntr	Pr	SID	Storm-Name	-Lat-	-Lon--	Vmax	Pmin	Penv	--GFDL--	--HWRF--
NHC	1	07L	EARL	19.6N	65.2W	59.0	938	1010	message1	message1
NHC	2	06L	DANIELLE	41.3N	48.0W	31.0	975	1008	message2	message2
NHC	3	08L	FIONA	14.9N	49.8W	18.0	1007	1012	message3	message3
NHC	4	98L	INVEST	10.3N	26.6W	10.0	1010	1012	message4	message4
JTWC	1	08W	KOMPASU	25.1N	129.4E	49.0	952	1004	-CANNOT-	message5
JTWC	2	07W	LIONROCK	20.2N	117.6E	28.0	982	1002	-CANNOT-	message6
JTWC	3	09W	NAMTHEUN	25.6N	121.0E	21.0	993	1002	-CANNOT-	message7
JTWC	4	93C	INVEST	9.3N	171.4E	10.0	1010	1011	-CANNOT-	---NO---

Controls: [N]ext [P]rev, toggle [H]WRF [G]FDL [B]oth
When done: [S]etup models or [Q]uit without doing anything

NHC #1 = 07L EARL
at 19.6N 65.2W moving 6.2m/s at 295 degrees from north
wind=59m/s RMW=37km R34: NE=324, SE=297, SW=222, NW=297 km
Pmin=938.0mbar, outermost closed isobar P=1010.0 at 463.0km radius
I see no obvious errors in the vitals data for EARL 07L. ■

For triggering the 40-member HWRF ensembles to assimilate TDR data, AOC will send a dummy data file with Storm ID, Mission ID and other header information just before the plane takes off. HWRF scripts will read the data file and setup the workflow. Ensembles are run one cycle prior to the actual cycle where data is assimilated.

Next Steps


1. Retrospective T&E at EMC: **April 01, 2015 --- Completed**
2. Briefing to NHC: **April 9, 2015 ----- Completed**
3. NHC Evaluation and Recommendations: **April 14, 2015 -- Completed**
4. Briefing to EMC and CCB: **April 15, 2014 --- Now Completed**
5. Submission of Codes to NCO: **April 16, 2014 --- Code Hand-Off, Submission of RFC form, release notes and flow diagram in progress**
6. TIN for HWRF : **April 24, 2015**
7. NCO IT Testing and Code Freeze: ~**May 15, 2015**
8. Briefing to NCEP Director's Office: ~**May 25, 2015 ???**
9. Implementation by NCO: **May 26, 2015**

HWRF as a unique global tropical cyclone model

Operational Real-time forecast guidance for all global tropical cyclones in support of NHC, JTWC and other US interests across the Asia Pacific, North Indian Ocean and Southern Hemisphere ocean basins

Developmental Testbed Center Support

www.dtcenter.org/HurrWRF/users



Yearly releases, code downloads, datasets, documentation, helpdesk

700 registered users

Stable, tested code

Benchmarks available

Support to HWRF developers in code management

Current release: HWRF v3.5b (2013 operational with several patches)

Next: HWRF v3.6a (2014 operational) 08/2014, concurrent with operational implementation



Continue the community modeling approach for accelerated transition of research to operations

International partnerships for accelerated model development & research